THE LIVES OF ALL THE ROMAN EMperors, being exactly Collected, from *Iulius Cæsar*, unto the now reigning *Ferdinand* the second.

WITH THEIR BIRTHS, Governments, remarkable Actions, & Deaths.

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BRITISH MUSEUM

TO THE WORSHIPFVLL, MY MOST honoured PATRONE *WILL. STONOVR* Esquire.

SIr, *Quæ a primis pubertatis annis radices egit amicitia eo fortius meliusque floret quo fuerit longævior.* By which I boldly inferre anexcuse for my presumption, in

preſenting unto you the firſt fruits of a tree ſo long growing up. It is the nature of ſome trees not to bring forth fruite untill they come to be prove&t, and ſuch fruites are ordinarily more ſolid, and not ſo ſoone apt to be corrupted. For me to commend the fruite, were to bring my ſelfe upon the publique ſtage of oſtentation & folly; neither need I when the pleaſantneſſe

thereof (*viz.* the argumẽt) is of ability ſufficient to commend it ſelfe. *Nobiles nobilia decent*, and ſo the noble *Cæſars* now ſeek unto your noble ſelfe for a protection, and to be patronized as being all brought into the ſtraights of this *epitomicke* volume: and in entertaining them being in number one hundred fifty ſix, I hope you will not exclude their Conductour, but reflect

so upon him with a favourable, though a different respect, who was ever most studious to honour and serve you, as

Yours

most obsequious,

R. B.

To

To the Reader.

READER, I cannot say with the Poet *Materiam superabat opus*, who (in a description commended the art and workeman-ship beyond the matter whereon it was shown, as the statue of *Hercules*, the matter whereof being but stone, yet for the curiosity of art therein expressed, is held at an inestimable rate and valu: no, but the contrary; for here *Materia superatur opus*, the workman-

ship,

ſhip, (ſtile and language I meane) comes far ſhort of the matter: Yet being iudicious, thou maiſt portray the whole *Hercules* having found but the length of his foot: and withal, I having a gueſſe at thy humor which rather loveſt brevity (the minion of delight) than the *tædium* of pleaſure in *folio*, would rather comply with that of thine, then mine own, and preſent to thy view great perſonages to the life, in ſmall draughts and peices, and give thee onely light touches of their vertues and vices: which touches if I have overſhadowed with that of brevity, and thereby

thereby have procured thee an appetite of a larger ſatisfaction, I muſt of neceſsity referre thee to the hazard of a *tædium*: for as ſome ſtomackes at the ſight of a large table well furniſhed, inſtantly looſe the edge of hunger, ſo might thine at the ſight of the bulke of a Church-bible. Wherefore I have provided thee a little and dainty, variety and plenty, ſhort and ſweete: but not a crumme for that Curre that muſt be content aſwell with the bones as the meate, whoſe ſnarles I feare not, nor eſteeme his impertinent *commendams*, but referre me to thine

thine impartiality, who (if thou art a good fellow) wilt accept a bit with a friend without grumbles and accept his welcome better then his fare: then Reader, Welcome to thy friend.

R. B.

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To

THE LIVES OF all the *Roman* Emperors, being in number 156.

1. *Caius Julius Cæsar.*

After the foundation of the City of Rome *Anno* 706.

JUlius *Cæsar* a most noble *Roman*, was borne after the foundation of *Rome* 654. He was the first that made himselfe sole Emperor: He overcame the

Swissers and *Tigurines*; hee overthrew the *Almans*, chasing them out of *France*; he subdued all *Ffrance*, and after passing over the *Rhene*, made himselfe Lord of *Germany*: thence he came into *England*, (which at that time was unknowne) and added it to the *Roman* Empire: But at length not obtaining of the *Senate* what hee often sued for, after he had made himselfe sure of *Ariminum*, hee went with so great power to the gates of *Rome*, that *Pompeius* the great much fearing him, and forsaking *Italy*, was by *Cæsar* utterly overthrowne in the famous battaile of *Pharsalia*.

Hee subjugated *Ptolomæus* in *Egypt*, *Scipio* in *Affricke*, and *Juba* King of *Mauritania*, the sonnes of *Pompeius* in *Spaine*: In the end supposing himselfe (after much greatnesse) to live in secure peace, was cruelly murthered in the Senate-house, receiving three and twenty severall wounds by the hand of conspira-

conſpirators at his age of 56, the 15 of *April*, with many prodigies before and after his death. In him it was queſtioned whether *Clemency* or the *Sword* obtained him moſt honour: For by the firſt hee tyed his potent enemies to be his friends; witneſſe his Commentaries every where: But by the Sword hee won the Empire, which before was a Conſulate. His ſaying was uſually in judging of mens natures: *Rubicundos amo, pallidos timeo: I love the well coloured men, but feare the pale*: which was proved in *Caſſius* that gave him his firſt wound in the Senate-houſe; but loved *Brutus*, whom when he ſaw alſo to ſecond *Caſſius* in that Treaſon, with an *Et tu fili?* ſurrendred his life. Baro. pag. 300.

2. Octavianus Cæsar Augustus.

In the 41 yeere of his reigne our Saviour Jesus Christ was borne.

Octavianus Nephew of *Julius Cæsar*, of the family of the *Octavij a Roman*, by his Mothers side descended from the race of Kings departed out of *Macedonia*, and came into *Italy* upon the immature death of his Uncle, and changing his name, would be called *Caius Cæsar*, the sonne of *Caius Cæsar*; and being arrived

at

at *Rome*, he was created Consul at the age of 20 yeeres. He was a Souldier good enough: hee routed *Sextus Pompeius*; he was called *Pater patriæ*, because he adorned the City with Lawes and Edifices: wherefore there were Temples and Altars erected in his Honour.

He overthrew *M. Antonius*, he conquered *Spaine*, *Hungary*, and *Slavonia*. In the time of his reigne all the World being then in peace, our *Lord* and *Saviour Iesus Christ* was borne. Hee governed this Universe absolute *Cæsar* 44 yeeres, and 12 yeeres with *M. Antonius*: and in the 76 yeere of his age, within one Moneth and five dayes hee dyed at *Nola* by poyson, to the griefe of all.

Macrobius testifieth this of *Augustus*, that when he heard of the slaughter of the children under two yeeres, which was commanded by *Herod*, continuing his tyranny almost a whole yeere, *Macrobius lib. 2. Sat. 4.*

amongst which *Herods* sonne was one, *Augustus* said thus, *Melius est Herodis porcum esse quàm filium*: It is better to be one of *Herods* hogges, than one of his sonnes. So impartiall is a spirit possessed with cruelty, that as it makes no difference of the act; so neither of persons. He may and is justly called *The murtherer of Innocents*: and so to keepe his Act in memory, the Church doth keepe the day Festivall, called *Innocents day*, in memoriall of that bloody command.

Tyberius

3. Tiberius Nero Cesar.

In the yeere of Christ 16.

AFter the excellent, and of famous memory *Octavianus*, succeeded the wicked and cruell *Tiberius*: And although that in his predeceſſors time he had done notable exploits in Warre, yet he was eſteemed as the wickedſt man alive. He ſeemed unwilling to accept or undertake the Empire, the more to endeare them unto him which were againſt it: and ther- *An. Dom. 16.*

fore in the beginning of his government he carryed himselfe indifferently well: but a while after he shewed himselfe againe in his colours, sterne, most cruell, and as one compleate in all unspeakeable filthynesse and vice: And it was questioned whether *lust* or *cruelty* in him were most eminent, or *gluttony*; all being vices unworthy the name of a Prince. St. *Iohn Baptist* and our Saviour *Iesus Christ* suffered in his time. He was no great enemy of the Christians; but he proposed it in the Senat-house, *That Christ should be adored as a God.* Finally, he dyed neare unto *Naples* by the Treason of his Nephew *Caligula*, after he had governed 22 yeeres, and of his age 78.

What he was, *Seneca* expresseth, as *Illum à rerum natura editum, ut ostenderet quid summa vitia in summa fortuna possent.* Also *Dyonisius Areopagita*, who lived in his time, seeing the strange Eclipse of the Sun and Moone at the instant

ant houre of our Saviours paſſion, ſaid, *aut Deus naturæ patitur, aut mundi machina diſſolvitur : The God of Nature ſurely ſuffers this day, or elſe the whole world is diſſolved.* Tacitus Suetonius Deo. vid.

One *Longinus* amongſt other ſouldiers, is recorded to have pierced our Saviours ſide with his Speare, out of whoſe Wound came *Water* and *Blood* : And Authors doe report, that the ſame *Longinus* in the very perpetrating of the Act was ſtrucken with *blindneſſe*, and being recovered to his ſight by the ſaid *water* & *blood* applyed to his eyes, did afterwards repent for this cruel act, and was made Biſhop of *Cappadocia*.

4. *Cains*

4. Caius Cæsar Caligula.

Anno Domini 39.

THe election of *Caligula* was moſt pleaſing to the Senate; ſo much the more, becauſe in his *An. Dom. 39.* firſt entrance to the government, hee endeauored with great ſubtilty to gaine and winne the good-will of all men: onely ſeemingly juſt, noble, and generous; with pleaſing carriage and behaviour courting the Nobility. He ordained ſports, feaſts, paſtimes, Stage-playes,

playes, and other entertainments to content the people. But in the processe of his government he fell into such execrable villany and filthy wickednesse, that he would be called and adored as a God. He plained mountaines, made vallies hills, built towers in the deepe sea: and all this he did with such impurity and cruelty, that many would rather murther themselves, than come or stay for the rigour of his sentence.

Lastly, being become unsufferable to all the people of *Rome*, hee was slaine by *Chærea*, receiving 30 wounds in the third yeere, and tenth Moneth of his Imperiall government, aged 29 yeeres. He built the *Colossus*, and other workes of innumerable expences: His wife *Casonia* was run thorow with a sword, and her yong daughters braines dasht against the walls. He banished *Pilate*, and would have had Christ adored as a God, but the Senate withstood it. *Spond.*

Claudius

5. Claudius Cæsar.

Anno Domini 43.

An. Dom. 43. *Claudius* Uncle to *Caligula*, succeeded in the Empire as it were by meere accident: becauſe the people of *Rome* being freed from the terror of the times lately paſt, imagined to redeeme and keepe their liberty, and utterly to extinguiſh all the race and family of the *Cæſars*: and ſome making a head, and themſelves maſters of the Capitoll, gave an occaſion to *Claudius* (by nature a fearefull and heart-

heartleſſe manner to hide himſelfe. But being found out, and encouraged by a Souldier, and betweene feare and hope was nevertheleſſe at the laſt made Emperor. In his beginning hee was moſt mercifull, although he put *Cherea* to death. By his command and appointment the Water-worke called *Aqua Claudia* was made: He cauſed the Lake *Lucinum* to be drawne dry by the dayly labour of thirty thouſand workemen within the ſpace of two yeeres. He built the Haven of *Oſtia*: the laſt partner with him in the Empire was *Agrippina*, who through feare of him, and to ſecure her ſonne of the ſucceſſion, poiſoned him with a diſh of Muſhromes, and ſo he dyed the 13 of *October*, at the age of 64, whereof hee reigned 14, and had ſepulture at *Rome*.

In the eighth yeere of his reigne hee muſtred the City, and had to the number of three ſcore and nine hundred and fifty foure thouſand Cittizens. *Baronius.*

In

In the 6 yeere of his reigne the Virgin *Mary* departed this life at the age of 72 yeeres.

6. *Nero.*

Anno Dom. 57.

Laudius being dead, the Senate not onely gave the Imperiall *An. Dom.* 57. government to *Nero*, but also swore him fealty. At the first he gave such good satisfaction to all, that they said, He was ordayned for them by the expresse commandement of God: But proceed

proceeding in his government, he fell into much insolency and cruelty.

Hee had *Seneca* the Philosopher for his teacher and instructer, but all requited him; for hee commanded him to chuse his death, for dye he must. *Seneca* desired his veines to be opened to let out his life. He tooke all the Plate and Jewels out of the Temples; he caused his owne Mother *Agrippina* to be slaine, and her body to be ript open, that he might see the place wherein he lay. Hee slew *Poppæa* his wife with a spurne or kicke: he studied Magicke, and called all the Magitians to his favour: but being deluded by *Simon Magus*, that promised that he should flye, he expelled them the Citty. Lastly, forsaken of all men but onely his *Spado*, whom he had formerly caused to bee cut, so that hee might use him at his pleasure; and onely hee following his Master to the end, in so much that *Nero* being closely pursued, gave his

Sword

ſword to his *Spado*, and bad him diſpatch him, which he refuſing, *Nero* ſaid, *Ergo Nero nec amicum nec inimicum habet*. Some write that he fell into a vault of a common Jakes, other that he ſlew himſelfe.

He ſet fire on the City, and from a high Tower beheld and laughed at the fire: and in the repairing thereof he cauſed the Edifices to be called *Neroniani*. He overcame the *Parthians*, and ſubdued the *Britans*: hee greatly perſecuted the Chriſtian name, and beſides the putting the Apoſtle St. *Peter* and St. *Paul* to death, he cauſed alſo an infinite number of Chriſtians to be ſlaine. He made Warres upon the *Iewes*, and in the end being inſupportable to *God* and *man*, amongſt the rebellious ſeditions of many Provinces, and the Senate having publiquely proclaimed ſentence of death againſt him, and flying out of the City, ſtabbed himſelfe, to the joy of the whole World, in the

32 yeere

32 yeere of his Age, and fourteenth of his Reigne.

7. Sergius Galba.

Anno Domini 70.

AFter the wished death of *Nero* the cruell, *Sergius Galba* of the City of *Rome* by birth, was created by the Army, and by the Senate confirmed Emperor: who was no lesse intemperate, dogged, and fiercely cruell than his predecessor He was not ignorant *An. Dom.* 70.

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norant in the *Arts liberal*, and well read in the Lawes. He was much hated of all sorts, and it was a wonder, had he not reigned so short a time, that he lived so long, because every man slew him in conceit dayly, though not in effect; judging him farre unworthy such a degree, giving himselfe over wholly to idle and wicked conceits. In the sedition of *Otho* his head was strucke off in the market-place by a Souldier, and his body left in the power of the people, and was buried by a slave without any Ceremony at all, at the age of 73 yeeres, having governed seaven moneths, whose death was not lamented of any, because it was not known that ever he did good to any man.

His reigne being short and vicious, left no other memory to posterity but commemoratives of his detestable cruelty and other vices: who lies ingrav'd in the Imperiall City wherein hee first drew breath.

8. M. Silvius Otho.

Anno Domini 70.

Otho of a very honorable family in *Rome*, a man of great valour, of an able wit, ſonne of *Lucius* Conſul, ſucceeded *Galba* in the Empire, and gave great hopes both to the Senate and Cõmonalty by his gracious abbearing and carriage of a reſſe and reformation of former diſ-ſts, and grievances given them by his ſucceſſors, which indeed would have *An. Dom.* 70.

followed and issued so, had not the shortnesse of his government prevented and cut off this hopefull expectation: For at the same time that he was created Emperor in the City of *Rome*, *Vitellius* was proclaimed Emperor in *Germany*: And neither willing to give place to the other, resolved to decide and end it in the field: and after many battailes *Otho* being worsted in despaire of the recovery of his Crowne and Dignity, slew himselfe, to the infinite griefe and sorrow of all the Commons, in the yeere after *Christ* 72, and of his age 38, after the 3 Moneth and 5 dayes of his Empire, and dyed at *Veliteme*: the brevity of his reigne prescinded many and great hopes of his good government of the whole Empire.

9. *Vitellius*

9. *Vitellius.*

Anno Domini 71.

Otho being dead, every man converted his applauſe to *Vitellius*, which being ſo in generall, was confirmed by the Senate, and he comes to *Rome* in great triumph, bravely attended by his noble Army. This man although he was munificent and liberall, yet he was of a moſt cruell diſpoſition. Wherfore *Veſpaſian* being imployed in the warres of the *Iews*, was by the army *An. Dom.* 71.

created Emperor of *Rome*, and joyning battaile with *Vitellius* tooke him priſoner, binding his hands behind him, with a halter about his necke, the ſouldiers buffetting him about the face, with infinite diſhonour, diſgrace, and ſcorne was led about in publicke, and at the length with many wounds was deprived of life in that very place where hee had cauſed *Sabinus* the brother of *Veſpaſian* to be miſerably ſlaine: and together with him were ſlaine his owne ſon, and his brother, and all throwne into the River *Tiber*.

I find likewiſe no other notable thing or quality in this man, but much accuſed for cruelty, of a ſlow and dull ſpirit, and given exceſſively to gluttony, inſomuch that all Gluttons to this day paſſe under his name. Hee lived 57 yeeres, having reigned little more than 8 Moneths.

10. *Vespasianus.*

In the yeere of Christ 72.

Vespasian a *Roman* borne, al- *An. Dom.* 72.
though he were not of so noble a blood, hee deserved nevertheless for his true worth, and excellent qualities of the minde, to be created Emperor. And having taken possession of the Imperiall Seate, hee embellished and beautified the City with *Amphitheaters*, Temples, and Statues: Hee was in all his actions courte-

ous, affable, and benigne to all. He raced and utterly destroyed the famous City of *Hierusalem*, verifying that Propheſie of *our Saviour*, which was, *That there ſhould not be left one ſtone upon another.*

Hee was moſt temperate in his diet, and very polite, neate, and compleate in his perſon: Hee made many countries tributary to the Empire: Not any one vice could be imputed to him but *avarice*, although hee acknowledged it with this excuſe, becauſe that hee found the Empire very bare of monies, by the reaſon of the extraordinary exceſſes of his Predeceſſors. Hee dyed of a Fluxe in the yeere of our Lord Eighty one, in the Ninth yeere of his Reigne: aged 69.

In his time was put to death in *Rome Linus*, the firſt Biſhop of that See, to whom ſucceeded *Cletus*, the firſt Biſhop of that name, and the ſecond of that greatly boaſted Succeſſion from Saint

Peter

Peter the Apoſtle. *Suetonius* records this, that before the death of *Veſpaſian*, there appeared a Comet, and as his Friends gave him notice, that it portended his Death: hee ſlighting it, and not any way diſcouraged thereby, ſaid, *That it threatned not him, but the Kings of the* Parthians *that wore long haire, as the Comet had*; yet nevertheleſſe *Veſpaſian* dyed not long after. *Scipio du Pleix.*

II. *Titus.*

11. Titus.

Anno Dom. 81.

An. Dom. 81. TItus was of no leſſe goodneſſe and vertuous morality than his father *Veſpaſian* had beene before him. He was well learned in the *Greeke*, and *Latine* tongues, and moſt excellent in writing: But in Armes hee exceeded the glory of the precedent Emperors, becauſe he tryumphed for the overthrow of the *Iewes*. In his government of the Empire he was ſo circumſpect,

cumspect, diligent, and especially liberall; that hee was called *The Idol of Nations*: and hee esteemed that day to be lost wherein he had not done a courtesie: And therefore he said once to his brother, (that conspired his death) *That he need not attempt that by fratricide which he without it might obtaine by favour*. But because the *Romans* were not worth (perhaps) so compleate and just a Governor, by the secret judgement of *God* hee was taken from the world by a maligne Fever, which in few dayes ended his life in the Country neare to *Rome*, at the yeeres of 41, and of his Empire the second, two moneths and twenty dayes. And lies buried at *Rome*, having by his *valour* and *wisedome* made the *Roman Eagle* to triumph over *Hierusalem*.

Iosephus largely describes the *Hierosolimitan* Warres and passages, and affirmes that whatsoever thing could bee found of any value, was by him transported *Append. Iosephus.*

ported to *Rome*. Hee was ſo amiable and affable to all, that hee was called *Amor & delicia generis humani*: but as it is thought, he dyed poyſoned by his brother *Domitian*, who ſucceeded him in the Empire.

12. *Domitianus.*

Anno Domini 83.

An. Dom. 83. *Domitianus* ſucceeded the good *Titus* his brother, who in the beginning was likewiſe affable, merciſull and juſt e did not much addict

dict himſelfe to warres, although he triumphed, and was victorious in all thoſe wars which he undertooke: but tooke great felicity in ſhooting in a long bow, & became ſo dexterous in it, that he hazarded thereby the lives of many men, yet never hurting them. But he in the progreſſe of his government became ſo cruell, unjuſt, and covetous, that upon the leaſt occaſion hee put many men to death, uſurping their wealth, ſaying, *Himſelfe was next heire.* He was a great perſecutor of *Chriſtians*, becauſe in his time many very holy men were ſlaughtered with exquiſite and new found torments. In the end by the conſpiracy of *Stephanus*, the Steward of his houſhold, and others he was murthered in his Palace in *Rome* at the age of 45, and in the 15 yeere of his reigne, and was buried in the way that now leads to the *Lateran* Church. The ſecond perſecution began now againſt the Chriſtians: *Euſebius* tearmes him *Hæredē Neroniana ſævitiæ.*

And

And it is not to be wondred that hee should so much be given to shed blood, and devise torments for men, who used in his study privatly to practise all punishments upon Flies and Gnats.

13. *Cocceius Nerva.*

Anno Domini 99.

Dom. After *Domitian*, *Cocceius Nerva* being the 13 Emperour, and the first *Italian* by Nation, was judged the fittest man to succeed in the Empire:

Empire, who was nobly deſcended, and choſen in the yeere of *Chriſt* 99, being of age 66.

This man was ſo mercifull, benigne, and liberall, that all the world admired him. Hee recalled all the Chriſtians from exile, and mitigated their troubles: He cauſed the children of the poore to be brought up, and educated at the publique charge: hee purchaſed many lands, and diſtributed them to the poore decayed Cittizens. And to bring theſe matters to effect, hee was conſtrained to ſell his owne Plate of Gold and Silver, with the reſt of his houſhold-goods: And reflecting upon his end, hee elected *Traianus*, a man very nobly deſcended, and of an ancient family, to ſucceede him. He dyed in the tenth Moneth, and ninth day of his Reigne, of a conceit hee tooke againſt a *Senator* called *Regulus*, to the great lamentation and ſorrow of the whole City, which had now loſt a true

Patron

Patron of the poore, and was buried with all the Ceremonies of the ancient *Romans* in the Temple of the Goddesse *Fortune*.

The charitable disposition of this *Cæsar* to strangers and poore people, got him not unworthily the title of *Pauperum Patronus*: Charity being then scarce knowne, and little practised of the Heathen Governours.

14. *Traianus.*

14. *Traianus.*

In the yeere of Christ 100.

Traianus being the first Emperor of *Spanish* blood, was the honour as well to his owne Nation, as also to the Emperors precedent. Instantly having taken possession & government upon him, hee began to reforme the corruption of the Lawes, administring true Justice unto all. Hee was wonderous good to the poore: He caused all the poore mens children both of the City and country

An. Dom. 100.

of *Italy* to be brought and trained up in good Literature and Discipline. In peace and warre he was most judicious and just, but being seduced by the Divell, (although afterwards he became more temperate) hee persecuted the Christians, putting infinite numbers of them to death, and during his reigne was that third famous persecution of the Church. He subdued *Dacia*, *Mesopotamia*, and made *Armenia* tributary: he tooke in *Soria*, *Babylonia*, and *Chaldea*. In his returning backe to *Italy*, being arrived in *Cilicia*, fell dangerously sicke, and in *Selencia* hee dyed, whose ashes were brought to *Rome*, and in an Urne placed on the top of a Columne which the *Roman* Citizens erected to the memory of him, who so worthily and so long had manag'd the Empire: he reigned twenty one yeeres, sixe moneths, and 15 dayes.

In this Emperours reigne the City of *Antioch*

Antioch by an Earth-quake was utterly ruinated. *Dio Cassius* speaking much in his commendations, dashes them all with an extraordinary affection to Wine and Boyes: but others have cleared that aspersion, and doe largely praise this *Cæsar* for his incomparable endowments of minde and habilities of body. And certainly such worthy atchievements had their originall from an excellent qualified spirit. But if wee seriously consider his weighty and dayly imployments, any will easily confesse, that hee could not spare time for such idle toyes, having all his spirits continually otherwise imployed.

15. *Adrianus.*

An. Domini 121.

An. Dom. 121. GOod *Traianus* being dead, *Adrianus* his Nephew a *Roman*, was choſen to ſucceed, who followed the ſteps of his Anteceſſor, and gave great content and joyfull expectation to the whole City. He viſited in perſon the whole Empire, and all the warres hee undertooke, ſucceeded fortunate. He was not very ſevere againſt the Chriſtians: hee gave himſelfe

ſelfe exceedingly to the knowledge of all manner of Arts and Sciences: and any man whatſoever was expert in any knowledge, he called him to *Rome*, forbidding all that were not Profeſſors, to ſeeme to profeſſe any their Art or Science, unleſſe they were Maſters indeed, and well able fully to inſtruct others in them. Falling into an incurable diſeaſe, hee attempted oftentimes to kill himſelfe, and offered rewards to any man that would kill him; and many times hee ſollicited many with threatnings to murther him. Finally, the Phyſitians ſeeking to give him content, perſwaded him to forbeare eating and drinking, and ſo he did, and dyed at *Baiæ* in upper *Gall* at the yeeres of ſeaventy two, and five moneths, and ſeaventeene dayes, in the two and twentieth yeere of his reigne, and was conveyed to *Rome*.

He continued the perſecution againſt the Chriſtians, and afterwards ſlacke-

ned it by a remisse way. Hee builded Temples, and dedicated them to his owne honour: He prophaned the holy places about *Hierusalem*, and being tyred with an incurable Dropsie, hee would faine have dyed, but could not. Hee suffered for his effusion of Christian blood: Lastly, hee dyed through voluntary famine. This being such a tedious and irksome disease, I wrought such a strong impression in his conceit, that death was rather to bee enjoyed, than a life so diseased and miserable.

16. *Antoni-*

16. *Antoninus Pius.*

Anno Domini 139.

Antoninus succeeded *Adrianus* by way of adoption, in which dignity hee lived upright and vertuously. There were not many warres in his time, because by his vigilancy hee made himselfe beloved and feared, keeping all Nations in due subjection. There came Embassadors dayly to *Rome* from all parts of the world to obtaine graces and priviled-

An. Dom. 139.

ges

ges for their countries, to whom hee gave audience very courteously, advising them before they speake, saying, *Demand that which is iust, and yee shall obtaine*: And furthermore, he entertained them all in such sort, that they all continued his most faithfull and obedient subjects. He was called the *Father of the vertues*, because hee was so just, courteous, liberall, and good, and above all, a lover of all good men: neither was there any one vice found in him. Being at his *Villa* or Countrey-house, being of the age of seaventy he dyed of a Feaver, having governed the Empire 23 yeeres. Whose death was lamented of all, the Empire being deprived of such a Governour, and Father truely *pious*. Hee was inurn'd in *Rome* towards the Easterne gate.

The name of *Pius* was given him, because when hee came to the Imperiall Dignity, he pardoned all Delinquents, saying, *Non oportet ab his rebus princi-*

patus

patus exordium ducere. In the fifteenth yeere of his Reigne hee by a speciall Edict restrained the persecution against the Christians.

17. *Aurelius Verus. M. Aurelius.*

Anno Domini 162.

AFter the *death* of *Antoninus Pius*, *Aurelius Verus* together with *Marcus Aurelius* the Philosopher, both being adopted by *Antoninus*, began *An. Dom.* 162.

began their government. *Aurelius Verus* was the son of *Aelius Verus* and *Comitia Calvilla*. This man betooke himselfe to *Soria*, and was taxed for being extraordinarily addicted to all manner of lust: And returning to *Rome*, he added to this vice many more, as sports, toyes, deceipts, and so many other villanies, that he shewed himselfe to the full in all his actions an imitator and follower of *Nero* and *Vitellius*. All which passages his companion *Marcus Aurelius* dissembling, because his vices might not publickly be notified to the City, very wisely, and to this mans satisfaction, sent him against the *Parthians* which were now in rebellion, whom he overcame with many other Countries.

Comming backe to *Rome* he brought with him all sorts of infamous, lewd, and vicious persons, with whom hee betooke himselfe to his Mosque, whom the people now called *Turkes*, have imita-

mitated for this ſtately ſort of buil-
ding, and within a little after dyed ri-
ding in his warlicke *Parthian* Charriot,
o refreſh himſelfe by the pleaſantneſſe
ofthe place. Theſe were called *Divi*
Fratres, becauſe they were both a-
dopted by *Antoninus* to the Empire:
But becauſe *Marcus* was the elder bro-
ther, and more famous, he ſo carried
himſelfe, as if hee had beene rather a
Father than a Brother to his younger
Brother *Verus*: under theſe a fifth per-
ſecution was raiſed againſt the Chri-
ſtians.

16. *Marcus Aurelius.*

Anno Domini 162.

An. Dom. 162. *Marcus Aurelius a Roman* by blood, continued his government after the death of his companion *Verus*, being adopted with him by *Antoninus*. This man was repleniſhed with ſo great goodneſſe and vertue, that deſervedly he was ſurnamed *The Philoſopher*. In his time there were warres, dangerous Earthquakes, grievous floods and inundations, terrible dearths, and moſt

moſt fearefull plagues. The Church ſuffered great tribulations by his perſecution. Hee was little fortunate in his wife; and although hee knew her to be diſhoneſt, yet nevertheleſſe hee would not diſmiſſe or divorce her, affirming her dowry to be the Empire, which dignity amongſt men was eſteemed an unvaluable portion: And therefore it could be no wiſedome in him to goe about to loſe it. This Emperor being in the warres of *Germany*, dyed of a grievous ſickneſſe call'd by latter Phyſitians the *Hemeroids*, at *Beudebone* in *Germany*, having reigned 19 yeeres; whoſe death the whole Empire deplored, to which he had beene ſo good a *Mecenas*, and moſt excellent Patron; and by the will of ſome of his Councellors, and as it is thought, by the approbatiõ of moſt of the Senate, had his body in great ſolemnity brought to *Rome*, and with all the funerall Rites tryumphantly interr'd cloſe by the Capitoll.

19. *Comme-*

19. Commodus.

Anno Dom. 182.

An. Dom. 182. Commodus a *Roman*, wicked and vicious, succeeded his good Father *Aurelius*: who because he was the sonne of so great a man, was without any difficulty, and with great applause of all in generall proclaimed Emperor. Being in possession hee addicted himselfe to all wickednesse and vice: Whereupon hee gave occasion to many to conspire against him, which he

e discovering, hee made a fresh sub-
ect of exercising his cruelties. He was
vonderous active of body, and admi-
able in throwing a Dart: Hee dyed
most miserably by the meanes of *Mar-*
ia his concubine, who having found
booke wherein were written the
ames of those which were condemned
o dye, and shee finding her selfe a-
mongst the rest, poysoned him: and
fter as hee was reaching or striving to
vomit, as it was appointed by her, he
was stabbed in divers places, dying at
he age of thirty two yeeres, having
eigned thirteene, leaving no notable
memory of himselfe to posterity.

Hee caused the Sacrifices peculiar to
Hercules, to be offered unto himselfe,
favouring the Christians, hee unwit-
tingly exercised a persecution upon his
owne Gentiles. He led a life most ex-
orbitant and lewd, and to equalize
Nero every way, he intended to fire the
City of *Rome*: But being hindered of
his

his cruell intendments, was in his Imperiall City strangled, as is generally thought, by a *Parthian* slave, whom formerly he had redeemed from death. He was buried in *Rome* with Torches by night close by *Campus Martius*.

20. *Helvius Pertinax.*

Anno Domini 194.

An. Dom. 94. *Commodus* being dead, *Pertinax* a *Ligurian* by Countrey, although he was meanly descended

ded by parentage, yet hee aſcended by his valour (which hee chiefly profeſſed) to the ſtate of the Imperiall heighth. He was the ſonne of a *quondã* Slave or Libertine, and ſtudying in his youth, he was a Doctor in the Lawes: Afterward hee tooke ſuch felicity and complacency in a military life, that he was noted to be of a more than ordinary wiſedome, and infinite valour in all his actions: inſomuch that by the conſpirators againſt *Commodus* (now dead) hee was aſſumed to the Imperiall Crowne. Hee ſo behaved himſelfe, that *envy* (which is alwayes the ſide-mate of *vertue*) repined; ſo that a while after ſome emulous perſons diſtaſting his good government, deſirous of novelties, with many wounds deprived him of life, to an univerſall griefe, being of the age of 66, who reigned onely 7 moneths, & 27 dayes, with ſo great benevolence to all, that the *Senate* determined to annumber him to their Deities, and for his

honour to ſucceeding ages, with all funerall pompe was buried in the Fane of the Goddeſſe *Ceres*, lying cloſe to to the now impregnable Caſtle of Saint *Angelo*.

21. *Didius Iulianus.*

Anno Domini 194.

Iulianus of the Dukedome of *Millaine*, by birth, ſeeing that the *Roman* Empire was as it were ſold according to the will and affection of the Souldiers, had a great de-

An. Dom. 194.

ſire

re to concurre or compound with the onne-in-law of the late deceased Em- eror, making him beleeve, (that hich indeede afterwards came to aſſe) that the Souldiers would not ave choſen *Pertinax* his ſonne-in-law, at hee might not have power to re- nge the death of his Father-in-law: nd for this cauſe they choſe *Didius Iu- anus*, who being confirmed againſt e will, and in deſpite of the Senate, nd of the people alſo; he reigned not ng, becauſe *Septimius Severus* (a an of great valour and power) being *Germany* Generall of the Legions, thought himſelfe upon this occaſion, w hee might make himſelfe Lord of e Empire; and comming within the hole Army to *Rome*, was by the Se- te acknowledged Emperor: Who ing to the Palace of *Iulianus*, (where was in great ſorrow and griefe) cau- d him to be murthered, hee having ld the Scepter onely two Moneths,

and five dayes, at the age of fifty six yeeres, in whose Reigne not many actions of worth are recorded, it being short and troublesome: Hee was buried in *Rome*, (not with any great pompe, because of his Adversaries power and malice towards his confederates) as is supposed, in an obscure place on the west side of the City.

22. *Caius Pescennius.*

Anno Dom. 194.

This Emperour is not nominated by Rome, because he was suddainly slaine.

AT the selfe same time that *Severus* was created Emperour, *Pescennius* of the Province of *Tuscany*, being in *Soria*, was by his soldiers saluted likewise Emperor: And whilst both were elected, each put himselfe in the best security and power that hee could to sustaine their *An. Dom.* 194.

obtained Dignity. *Pescennius* passed to *Constantinople* with his Army, and tooke in many Townes and Countries adjacent thereabouts, the better to enable himselfe against *Severus*, who came against him with great forces and power. The Armies both meeting, and giving each other battaile, *Pescennius* was routed and enforced to flie; and flying disguised came to *Antioch*, but being at length discovered, his head was taken off, and put upon a pole, and carryed about by his enemies. His sonnes together with their mother were banished, and a few dayes after slaine. This *Pescennius* was a braye souldier, and excellent, a singular Tribune, a valiant Captaine, a famous Consul, but an unfortunate Emperor. Hee reigned but the space of one Moneth, and left this life at *Antioch*, being indeed cut off by the hands of his persecuting enemies, and secretly conveyed towards *Rome* by his

sonnes,

sonnes, but they also were slaine by his foes, and his corpse left unburied.

23. Clodius Albinus

Anno Domini 195.

This Emperor likewise is not nominated in some Writers, because he never really had possession.

CLodius Albinus a *Roman*, a man well experienced in warre, and valiant, for his prowesse deser- *An. Do* 195.

ved by *Commodus* to be graced with the name of a *Cæsar*: which title he refusing, was by *Severus* created the *Primus Consul*, and not long after was made fellow-partner in the Empire. But in after time repenting himselfe (perhaps) of his too large liberality and bounty, he sought by deceipts & treacheries, and by most cunning, fraudulent, and subtile stratagems to make sure of his partner *Severus*: but being not able to bring his fetches about, and compasse his unworthy designes, he discovered himselfe to be his enemy, and with a great army advances against him: And being now come to handigripes of battaile, after many renewed combats and fights the forces and army of *Albinus* were worsted much, and routed, and himselfe taken prisoner. He was presently brought to *Severus*, who caused him to be beheaded, and his head carried all about *Rome* upon a pole, with great contempt and disdaine, and his body throwne to the dogs.

24. *Septi-*

24. *Septimius Severus.*

An. Domini 195.

Severus the sonne of a noble and powerfull *Roman*, very conversant both in the *Greeke* and *Latine tongues*, was created Emperor, with the good liking, and general applause of all men: In the government whereof, over and above the many and great satisfactions which hee generally gave, was this, that hee was peculiarly open to grant audience to any, and shewed much clemency and goodnesse *An. Dom.* 195.

neſſe towards them. He had an eſpe-
ciall care that the Citty ſhould be wel
ſtored with corne and graine of all ſorts
and all neceſſaries: And being many
times aſſaulted with powerfull Armies
and enemies, hee nevertheleſſe with
great valour and courage made brave
and honorable reſiſtance, remaining
alwayes victorious. Hee had an intent
to nobilitate the City, and be pleaſing
to all, although in his time the firſt
perſecution of the Church began. He
dyed in the Caſtle of *Yorke*, whilſt hee
was in his warres of *England*, having
governed the Empire to the great con-
tent of the world for the ſpace of eigh-
teene yeeres.

He had not the name of *Severus* with-
out a cauſe; for hee ſeverely comman-
ded 40, or thereabout of the Nobility
to be cut off, and many more vulgars,
becauſe they ſaid in way of jeſt, *Verè Se-*
verus &c. He dyed at *Yorke* (as ſome
ſay) rather through griefe of his ſonne

Caracal-

Caracallas wickednesse, than of any other malady; and had a Monument Emperiall erected to him at *Ments* in *Germany*.

25. *Bassianus Caracalla.*

Anno Domini 212.

BAssianus was the eldest sonne of *Severus* and *Martia*, and by the reason he was well beloved in his youth for his vertues, hee was eft suc cessor to the Empire. After the death *An. Do* 212.

death of his Father, changing his nature, he became so cruell, that like another wicked *Nero* he slew his owne brother *Geta* most miserably and cruelly, excusing himselfe to the souldiers, that if he had not providently slaine him, *Geta* would have done the like to him. Not content with this, hee put to death a great number of the most repute and greatnesse in *Rome*, being all friends of his dead brother *Geta*. *In fine* finding himselfe to be in disesteeme, yea, odious and hatefull to all, he left the City, pretending to visite the Empire: in which voyage he did so many base, vile and brutish acts, that he was deprived of his odious life by the meanes of *Macrinus*, having reigned 6 yeeres, in which space all his actions were such, that hee seemed rather a Stage-player than an Emperor. *Dio* writeth, that when many Presages fore-told this Emperor of his death at hand, he betook himselfe to Magick and Invocation of devils, there-

by

by to avoyd it: and it is to be much admired, that a man so affected towards all manner of extreames in wickednesse, tempered himselfe from slaughter of the Christians.

26. *Septimius Geta.*

Anno Domini 218.

GEta the sonne of *Severus*, was borne at *Milan*: This man because he was learned, a lover of *good* and *vertuous men*, of a mild disposi- *An. Dom.* 218.

tion,

tion, affable, and courteous to all, was after the death of his father, by the Army called Prince of the Empire: which Dignity hee managed with so great a wisedome and satisfaction of the people, that he was by them reputed as a God. *Caracalla* his brother, envying this his brothers universall honour and respect, he being a bloody and most wicked man, not enduring him to be in his company and presence, resolved secretly to poyson him; and having used divers wayes and meanes, but being not able covertly to effect it, hee slew with his owne hands the innocent young man whilst he was with *Iulia* his Mother, and Mother-in-law to *Caracalla*, to the great discontent of the whole Empire. Being younger brother to *Caracalla*, was but as a Co-emperor; but Crownes hardly admit the compartition even of a brother: And this *Geta* thought to have undertaken a private life, but by his brother was depri-

prived of his life, and was interr'd *Pruna*, as *Levinus Hulsius* records.

27. *Opilius Macrinus.*

Anno Domini 218.

Opilius Macrinus an *Affrican* *An. Dom.* *Negro*, having murthered *Cara-* 218. *calla*, was chosen Emperor by he Souldiers, although hee was by irth ignoble: Having taken the go- ernment upon him, he made prepa-

ration

ration to goe againſt *Artabanus* Kin
of *Perſia*, who to right himſelfe for th
wrongs done him by *Caracalla*, cam
towards *Rome*, but in the way under
ſtanding of the death of his enemy, h
came into a League with the *Roman*
This *Macrinus* was ſo cruell, fierce
and vicious, that he was called of many
* *Macellinus*, his houſe being a Butcher
of men by him murthered upon no oc
caſion at all. At laſt *Heliogabalus* by
the induſtry of a crafty old Beldam wa
made Emperor: *Macrinus* being now
put to it to defend his Crowne and Em
pire, was forced to try it out by Armes
but being in flight, and ſhifting for him
ſelfe was murthered by the Souldiers
together with his ſonne *Diadumenus*
whom he had choſen companion with
him in the government, having reigne
onely one yeere, and two moneths, and
was interred at *St. Denis* in *Gaule*.

* Of the Latine word *Macellū* a ſhāble, or butchery.

28. *Diadumenus.*

An. Domini 218.

Antonius being ſlaine by the Army, *Diadumenus* an *African* ſucceeds in the Empire, together with his father, who was deſirous that this his ſonne ſhould take upon him the name of *Antoninus*, the better to ſecure him from the Souldiers, and had many friends of the Kindred of *Antoninus Pius* who were in great number, and potent in the Citty of *Rome*: *An. Dom.* 218.

Rome: but his dignity continued not long, because in the warres against *Heliogabalus*, having governed and commanded his Arme discreetly, and to his best advantage, and fought with singular testimonies of undanted courage and valour, nevertheless dyed in the place, together with his father, to the great lamentation of all; because the people highly honoured him, in expectation of a great future to them, conformable to the greatnesse of spirit, which they knew and admired in him, grieving the more the losse of him, because the brevity of his reigne permitted him not to leave any memorial behind him to posterity, having governed one onely yeere together with his Father. He was buried in *Pannonia*, or as others say, in a place where is now a Monastery erected in *Austria*.

29. *Heliog*

29. Heliogabalus.

Anno Domini 219.

THe two afore-said Emperours being slaine, *Heliogabalus* of *Roman* discent, immediately layes hold on the Empire. Hee was borne in *Phenicia* of a Concubine of *Caracalla's*, and being a youth, he was made *Priest of the Sunne*, and called *Heliogabalus*, which in that Language signifies *Priest*: In which dignity growing on in yeeres, he bettered himselfe much *An. Dom.* 219.

much in wisedome, fortitude, and other vertues and qualities: insomuch as being created Emperour, by a great slight hee entered into a league with the *Parthians*: but after hee fell into a life so libidinous, that hee had to doe with his owne Mother. Hee ravisht Vestall Virgins, and in his Palace he kept Wenches and Whores, and men of wicked, lewd, and debauched life, upon whom hee conferred the offices of principall note and honour in the Court, with greatest graces and entertainments possibly he could. Finally, a great tumult amongst the people being raised against him, he was together with his impious Mother, having enjoyed the Empire foure yeeres, slaine at *Ratisbon* in *Germany*, and buried at *Howtingis*: and how farre this Emperour exceeded all his Predecessors in villany, *Dio* and *Herodian* makes mention at large, and *Capitolinus* affirmes,

he

he filled the whole Empire with luxu-
ries, turpitude, rioting, pride, and
cruelty.

30. *Alexander Severus.*

Anno Domini 223.

ALexander *Severus* a *Roman*, was borne in *Soria*, and was adopted by *Heliogabalus*: he tooke upon him the possession of the Empire *Anno Domini* 223. In his succession *An. Dom.* 223.

the *Roman* Common-wealth began to take breath, by the reason that this *Alexander* was very benigne, affable, courteous, mercifull, and a lover of wise and good men, and also of the learned men, and men of quality, by whose hands hee would have publique matters rightly carryed and administred. In his Warres he was most fortunate, beginning them alwayes with good advice and discretion. He tryumphed solemnely for his Easterne Conquests, to the great content and satisfaction of the *Roman* people. He tolerated the *Christians* to live peaceably, and without molestations, following the words of the *Gospell*; *Doe not that to another, which thou wouldest not another should doe unto thee.* Finally, at the instigation of *Maximus* hee was slaine by the *Alman* souldiers, having his eyes put out, together with his Mother (who was also a well-willer and [illegible] of the *Christian* name) upon his

his birth-day, at 29 yeeres of his age, having governed the Empire thirteene yeeres, fixe moneths, and seaven dayes, and his Mother lyes buried at *Ratisbone*.

Mammaa was a wel-disposed Lady, notwithstanding her great care of his instruction and education, yet when he came to the Empire, some of his Tutors (famous men) he put to death, and some he exiled: Shee favoured *Origen* much, and often sent for him to her at *Antioch*, that shee might heare from him the Exposition of the *Scriptures*.

31. Maximinus.

Anno Dom. 237.

An. Dom. 237. *Maximinus a Thracian* by blood although hee were ignobly borne, nevertheleſſe for his agility and nimbleneſſe he was greatly beloved of many Emperors, and therefore was made Tribune, and Captaine of the fourth Legion of *Alexanders* Army, of which hee was held in ſuch great eſteeme and repute, that he was by the multitude of Souldiers created

Emperor

Emperor *anno Domini* 237. But after this election hee grew so wicked, that hee unjustly put all the friends of *Alexander* to the sword. After that hee flew upon the Christians, and invented new and unknowne tortures for them. The sixt persecution of the Church of CHRIST began in his Reigne: briefly, hee was so horrible, that whilst he was in the Warres of *Germany*, the whole Empire rebelled against him. Last of all, flying with all violence towards the City of *Rome*, hee was cruelly slaine by the *Roman* souldiers, together with his sonne, whose heads were carryed to *Rome*, with incredible joy of all men, hee having reigned 3 yeeres.

In his thought hee was perswaded, that he could not continue in the Empire but by cruelty: Hee was first a Shepheard, and came to the Empire by force of Armes, and the love of his Officers which then swayed *Appendix.*

so

so much, that none could prevaile a-gainst them: The Senate was so much in awe and feare of him, that they their wives, and children privatly, and sometime publickly offered Sacrifices to their Idols, that they might never see his returne to their City, whensoever hee was drawne out upon any affaires: This Emperors body was inhum'd at *Fulda* in *Germany*, renowned for the famousnesse of the Abby, with the Bishopricke belonging to it.

32. *Julius*

32. *Iulius Verus Maximus.*

BY hereditary right *Iulius Verus Maximus* succeeds his Father *Maximinus* in the Empire, and was by nature of so great beauty of person, that very many faire Ladies loved him in extreame manner, and coveted his company, that they might have children like him beautifull: to whose suites he as easily and facily cõdescending, and enabled by youth, giving himselfe wholly to vanity, began to overswey better thoughts (perhaps) with

with those of brave clothes to set himselfe forth, supposing by that way an impossibility of resistance to be made him by any Woman whatsoever, were she never so beauteous. Hee was most temperate in his drinke, but for his belly he was an extraordinary trencher-man, insomuch that he thought himselfe able to convey any Parasite whatsoever into his belly at a meale. Lastly, reposing himselfe with his Father, was with him slaine by his owne souldiers at 18 yeeres of age, the souldiers saying, that it was not fit one sprigge should be left of such a tree. But as other Authors write, he dyed of a Dropsie, and had funerall rites of sepulture performed to him at *Quendelbourgh*, not farre from *Fulda*, the place of his fathers sepulture.

33. Gordianus.

The History makes no mention of the geere of his reigne, wherefore I affige it not.

GOrdianus a moſt noble *Affrican*, by the reaſon hee was very vertuous and temperate in his actions, with great reputation goodneſſe and Juſtice hee adminiſtred all thoſe honourable offices and degrees which the Senate conferred uppon him. This man being Vice-conſul in *Affricke*,

Affricke, was much against his will created Emperor: Which Election being heard of all over the World, was accepted by the City, and in particular accepted, reverenced, obeyed, and honoured as Emperor all *Italy* over, together with *Gordian*, a sonne of his very young. Who upon this their election, made warre upon other new Emperors, in which with an infinite mortality on all sides *Gordianus* the younger was overthrowne, and slaine; which the Father understanding, stabbed himself to the great griefe of all. His reigne was but of little continuance, yet remarkeable enough, the time and date of it not exceeding 40 dayes: he also departed at *Quendelbourgh*, and had his obsequies celebrated at *Magdebourgh*, which of late was massacred, and almost subverted by the Imperialists Army under *Pappenheim*.

34. *Marcus Clodius Puppienus.*

Anno Domini 289.

Clodius Puppienus was ignobly borne, yet of a *Roman* extraction, and noble in his actions, and a Souldier of high esteeme and valour; so that he acquired many governments, wherein he carryed himselfe with more than ordinary prudence, Justice, and dexterity. And *Maximinus* being proclaimed an enemy of the Countrey, *Clodius* was elected Emperor by the Senate, *An. Dom.* 289.

Senate, together with *Balbinus*, upon this agreement and condition, that *Balbinus* should attend to the government in the Citty, and *Clodius* abroad with his Army should stand for the service of the Common good of the Countrey. He fought against *Maximinus*, performing singular and admirable service, and remaining victorious he came back to *Rome*, governing together with *Balbinus* rightly and justly. Finally, each of them intending to goe, the one for the Easterne parts against the *Persians*, and the other against the *Germans*, they were both taken by the *Pretorian* soldiers out of their owne Palace, and caryed through the City, and in the way unjustly slaine; and had buriall close to the *Quirine* Mount in *Rome*.

35. Celius Balbinus.

Anno Domini 239.

Celius Balbinus was of an ancient family and Nobility, and for his vertues choſen Emperor by the *Roman* Senate, as a man of ſingular parts and goodneſſe. Hee ſhewed great liberality, juſtice, and clemency towards all men: he ſtudied alwayes to preſerve and continue the peace of the Common-wealth, and to the incredible *An. Dom.* 239.

satisfaction of all men, hee kept the people in quietnesse, whilst *Clodius Puppienus* fought with *Maximinus*, in which *interim*, had not the prudence of *Celius* prevented it, there had beene a wonderfull mutiny and tumult in the City of *Rome*, *Maximinus* having therein such powerfull friends. And *Puppienus* after that battaile returning to *Rome*, they both together (as is mentioned before) governed with an universall satisfaction; but impious fortune envious at their quiet, so brought about, that they both were slaine by the *Pretorians*, as the life of *Clodius* ... fieth, which is as much concerning this, as this him promiscuously.

36. Marcus Antonius Gordianus.

Anno Domini 240.

AFter the death of the two fore-men good Emperours, *Gordianus* a *Roman* by parentage, was elected by the *Prætorians*, and the Senate perceiving they could not remedy these passages, approved this election nevertheleſſe with great applauſe, becauſe he was well beloved of all in generall. He had to wife the daughter of

An. Dom. 240.

a great learned man, whose advice concerning the Empire was held in great estimation. Hee recovered *Thracia* from the *Gothes*; he fought against that powerfull *Sapores* King of *Persia*, and came off with great honour victorious: Hee recovered *Antioch*, and passing further, he tooke in the great Cities of *Carre* and *Nesibo*, in which voyage the Grand Counceller his Father-in-law dyed: in whose place he chose *Philippus*, who became so proud and insolent for the degree and honour he received, that utterly contemning *Gordianus*, esteeming him now no more Emperor, caused him to be slaine at 20 yeeres of his age and of his Empire the fourth: he received his death at *Nola*, and had buriall at *Bambergh*.

37. Cai

37. Caius Valens Hostilianus.

This Emperor although he is unknowne to some Historians, yet thus much notice is found of him.

OF this *Valens Hostilianus* because the Historiographers make little or no mention, it is thought that his Parents were unknowne, and consequently, little or nothing can be said of him: And yet it is true that some affirme, that after the death of *Gordianus*, there

was a certaine *Marcus* choſen by the Senate, of whom there is not any eſſentiall relation found out, but onely this, that hee dyed ſuddainly, and that in his place this *Hoſtilianus* was created by the Senate, and that by a ſuddaine pride, elation, and conceit of joy falling ſicke, dyed ſuddainly: although ſome ſay, the above ſaid *Marcus* yet living, he was allotted him as fellow Emperor, or partner and collegue in the command, and that *Hoſtilianus* was ſaluted by the Title of *Auguſtus*. But it is credible, that both of them dying ſuddainly as it is ſuppoſed, left no great note behind them.

38. Marcus Iulius Philippus.

Anno Domini 246.

IVlius *Philippus* an *Arabian* borne, a man of a coorse-spun thread by descent, but in Armes of a finer worth and hue, was by *Gordianus* made Captaine Generall against the *Persians*: And by little *Gordianus* became diseste-med of the souldiers by this mans meanes, commanding them to kill him, and proclaime *Philippus* Em-peror: *An. Dom.* 246.

peror: And making peace (although much disliked) with the *Persians*, marched towards *Rome*, where hee made his son *Philippus* a Collegue in the Empire. Hee instituted those playes called *Saeculares*, in the memory of the first foundation of the City. At that time making *Decius* Generall against the *Goths*, the souldiers called their Generall Emperor; against whom *Philippus* marched with a powerfull Army; but being hated of all by reason of his too imperious command and government, he was by them wounded at *Verona*, but dyed at *Vtrecht Anno Domini* 250, and was buried at *Spiers* a famous Imperiall City in *Aquitaine*. This Emperor was a Christian, and the first that received Baptisme: he reigned 5 yeeres.

In his time the famous *Cyprian* flourished, and was made Bishop of *Carthage*. *Apollonia* the Virgin, after

fter her jawes were broken, and eeth pulled and knocked out;) by he command of this Emperor, who id behold the action) would rather oluntarily caſt her ſelfe into the ire prepared for her, then ſpeake laſphemy : and after ſome other ruelties committed by this Empe- or, was converted and baptized a Chriſtian.

Joſephus. Baronius. Spondanus.

39. *Marcus Iulius Philippus.*

Anno Domini 246.

An. Dom. 246. *Marcus Iulius Philppus* sonne of *Philippus* and *Severa*, was made *Cæsar* and Collegue of the Empire by his Father at seaven yeeres of his age: at which time he became a Christian, being baptized by his Fathers appointment, together with a great number of his nearest and deareſt friends and servants. This holy and salutiferous action being

ing performed by the chiefe Commanders of the *Roman* Empire, was an occasion that many came to the knowledge of the truth, and fixed their eyes upon the true light of *Iesus Christ* our Redeemer. This Emperor was by nature so melancholy, that no man living could make him once laugh, although many did their best indeavours by slights and inventions. This youth having reigned 7 yeers, and being at the age of 14, at the report of his fathers death all over the City, by the *Pretorian* souldiers was suddainly and cruelly slaine: but by his speciall friends, and those that favoured him for his Christianity, his corpse was conducted to *Spiers*, and there inurn'd, not farre off from his Father.

40 *Decius*

40. *Decius.*

An. Domini 250.

An. Dom. 250. AFter the death of the *Philips*, *Decius* an *Austrian*, succeeds without any resistance or difficulty, but was *viva voce* elected by the whole Senate, and was called *Imperator Augustus*, because he was a man endued with great vertue and valour, very wise and prudent, and well experienced in most offices and Magistracies, discharged

discharged by him with singular dexterity and wisedome. Briefly, he was of a goodnesse, that he might worthily have beene enrolled amongst the good Princes, had not the Church suffered so great tribulations and afflictions under him, being an Infidel and non-credent, which was the seaventh persecution which the Church of God endured. Hee was victorious against the *Gothes*, and joyning a fresh battaile with them, by the treason of *Trebonianus Gallus* his Captaine Generall he was overthrowne. And at the report of the death of his sonne *Decius*, putting spurres to his horse, and giving him the reines, wilfully precipitated, and cast himselfe into a deepe pit without hope of safety, and to the losse of his life, at the 50 yeere of his age, and of his Empire the second, and *anno Domini* 252, and buried at *Spiers*. In the heate of his

his persecution hee commanded a certaine young man, a Christian, to be bound, and lye uppon his backe, and an harlot to be sent to him, to provoke him to lust, which hee perceiving, and fearing to be overcome with pleasure, bit off his tongue, and spit it in her face as shee was kissing him; so that the greatnesse of that paine overcame the fence of lust.

41. Messius Decius.

Anno Dom. 250.

OF no lesse goodnes & valour than his Father was this *Decius* even in his youth: wherfore he was chosen as partner in the Empire, and by the Senate confirmed *Cæsar*, and successor to *Decius* his father, with whom (as a brave souldier) hee went to the warres of the *Gothes*, which was so bloody and terrible, that the greater part of *An. Dom.* 250.

of the *Roman* Army was slaine, and put to flight, and *Decius* the youth was mortally wounded by an arrow through his very heart, where in the sight of his Father he suddainly fell downe dead from his horse, moving not onely his owne souldiers, but even his enemies to compassion, having reigned two yeeres, together with his father *Decius*. The which news being understood by the Senate, much afflicted them, not so much for the slaughter and losse of so many valiant and noble *Romans*, as for the unfortunate end of both the Emperors: his reigne being not absolute, but with his fathers approbation, the Senate and City lost not onely a good Tree, but also an hopefull fruite.

42. *Trebonia.*

42. Trebonianus Gallus.

Anno Domini 252.

AFter the great and terrible slaughter of the *Roman* Army in the battaile with the *Goths*, *Trebonianus* being by birth a *Gaule*, borne at *Delean*, by the surviving souldiers was elected Emperor: which when it was understood, the Senate also confirmed the election, and the title *Augustus* was granted unto him. Seeing himselfe now *An. Dom.* 252.

in this greatneſſe, being very deſirous to goe to *Rome*, to the great detriment and impairing of the imperiall dignity and Crowne, hee concluded a peace with the *Goths*, making the Empire tributary and penſionary to them, and as it were in their ſubjection: For not long after, the *Gothes* broke the peace, and greivouſly troubled *Aſia*, and a part of *Italy*. In theſe ſo great calamities *Emilianus* Captaine Generall under *Gallus*, obtained one ſole victory againſt the *Gothes*, for which hee became ſo inſolent and proud, that he laboured by all meanes to winne the good-will of the ſouldiers, inſomuch that he was by them elected & ſworne Emperor. Which *Gallus* underſtanding departed from the City of *Rome*, together with his ſonne whom he had already publiſhed and declared to be his companion in the Empire: and comming

to

to try it out with *Emilianus*, hee with his ſonne were ſlaine in the ſecond yeere of his government at *Verona*, and was buried in *Saxony*.

The perſecution now ſlackned for a time, ſo that the exiled returned each to his home: in theſe times a Plague taking its beginning firſt in *Egypt*, was ſo vehement, that it infected generally the whole world, and laſted for the ſpace of 10 yeeres.

43. Volusianus.

Anno Domini 252.

An. Dom. 252.

CAius Vibius Volusianus was by his Father *Trebonianus Gallus* made companion in the Empire, and in an excellent warrelike order marched against the *Gothes* to defend his Fathers dignity now disturbed by *Emilianus*, who for a notable victory against the *Gothes*, was by the souldiers elected Emperor in the time of *Gallus*

lus and *Volusianus*. Whereupon the Armies both meeting, and both endeavouring to gaine the best advantage of ground to facilitate and secure the victory: In the first assault and brunt being forsaken of his souldiers, was together with his Father miserably slaine at *Bambergh* in *Germany*, but was conveyed to the City of *Larychium*, as is above related, in the life of *Trebonianus*. Wherefore wee cannot write any more of him to the satisfaction of the Reader which is a true lover of History, but give him this onely touch in this succinct manner and brevity concerning the lives of them both Father and sonne.

44. Æmilianus.

Anno Domini 254.

An. Dom. 254.

TO the two precedent Emperors *Æmilianus* succeeds, by birth an *African*, borne in *Mauritania* of an obscure and altogether unknowne parentage, but raised himselfe by continuall diligence in the services of warre; being growne in some yeeres, he served in divers degrees in the *Cavallery*, or Horse, and by *Decius* was made

a *Captaine*

a *Captaine Generall* of the confines of *Samaria*, where he became in so great esteeme with the Souldiers, that by them hee was to the incredible joy of all saluted Emperor, and accepted to be so by the States of the City. Against whom a Generall of the Army at that time upon the *Alpes*, *Valerianus* a noble man, and in great repute and power, not willing to consent that this *Æmilianus* should enjoy so great a dignity, openly explained and declared himselfe, unto whom even the souldiers of *Æmilianus* adhering, being moved with the great estimation they had of *Valerianus*, confirmed the election, and with common consent slew *Æmilianus* in *Spoleto* at his age of 40 yeeres, after the third moneth of his reigne.

But concerning the place of his death, others write that it was in a City in *Armenia the lesse*, and that

this Emperors funerall was kept at *Tyre* in *Greece*.

45. *Valerianus.*

Anno Domini 255.

An. Dom. 255.

Valerianus the son of *Valerius Flaccus*, of a most noble family among the *Romans*, attained to the Impetiall seate by his valour and gracious behaviour, as is above-said, and confirmed Emperor both within and without the City

City with as great an applause as ever any. He had two sonnes, the eldest of them called *Galienus*, who was by the whole City called *Cæsar* and successor in the Empire; the second, *Valerianus* by name, was by his father likewise named and made *Cæsar*.

The father was a great friend of the Christians, but at the perswasion of a Magician he used them with great cruelty, and his was the ninth persecution of the Church. For which sinne it came to passe, that going with a great Army against *Sapores* King of the *Persians*; *Valerianus* was taken prisoner, and amongst other disgracefull contempts shewne to him by *Sapores*, this was a chiefe, that when he was to take horse, he made the Emperor lye downe upon the ground, for the King to set his foote upon his necke. Afterwards his eyes were boared out, and dyed thereof:

thereof: although some Writers are of opinion, that he was flead alive, and lived in that misery and servitude seaven yeeres.

Valerianus was held by some learned men to be that Antichrist which is spoken of in the *Apocalips*, hee was so wicked and cruell: Saint *Laurence* suffered under him, *Cyprian* likewise. This Emperor dyed in *Persia*, and because he fell into the hands of his enemies, as is to bee thought, not but by divine Justice, he wanted not onely Imperiall sepulture, but also his corpse was hung upon poles in the view of all his owne souldiers, and left rather to scorne than pitty.

46. *Gal-*

46. Galienus.

Anno Domini 256.

Galienus succeeds his Father *Valerianus*, who by the Senate was made *Cæsar*, and by his Father *Augustus*. Hee was yet a youth when hee tooke upon him to governe, yet hee carryed himselfe very respectively, giving singular good examples of behaviour and perfection of life and conversation. But afterwards, his Father

Anno Domini 256.

ther being taken prisoner by the King of the *Persians*, hee did not onely not endeavour to redeeme him, but (as it were altogether forgetting him) gave himselfe to a life no lesse careleſſe than dishoneſt, and in all things contrary to his first beginnings, fruitlesſely ſpending his time in banquets; baths, wantonneſſe, luſt, ſhewes, and Pageants; ſometimes bloody and cruell, and ſometimes ridiculous and pleaſant. By whoſe life the Republique was not a little debilitated and weakened, and the Empire was divided into thirty Tyrannies, to the great ſlaughter of the *Roman* Citizens. And in the end going againſt *Aurelius* Prince of *Sclavonia*, hee was ſlaine in the battaile, having governed eight yeeres abſolute, and ſeaven with his Father.

Claudius being aſhamed of *Gallienus* his lazineſſe, began to affect the

govern-

government, whereby hee might revenge himselfe of the tyrannies of some: which *Galienus* perceiving, fought him (but in vaine) by donations to desist.

47. Salonin us Valerianus.

Anno Domini 261.

OF this Emperor there is little or no mention made in History, and therefore it may be called none at all; because hee *Anno Domini* 261.

was

was murdered being a of ten yeeres of age by the *French*: not so much for his owne particular cause, (as it is likely in respect of his child-hood not apt to make him odious) but for his fathers, by whom hee was suffected in the place of his elder brother *Cornelius Valerianus*, who likewise dyed in his minority. Hee was the sonne of *Licinius Galienus* and *Salonia*, from whom many would have him take his name: and others strongly affirme, not without good reason, because he was borne in *Salonia*. But be it as it will, it imports not much; it sufficeth that nothing is written of him worth the while, but onely this, that by his example the miseries of those times may be reflected on, being it was held the greatest infelicity and misery to be an Emperor.

48. *Postha-*

48. Posthumius.

Anno Domini 261.

BY birth *Posthumius* was a *Roman*, a man really just, and adorned with excellent quality and vertue, of an irreprehenfible behaviour and carriage: wherefore hee was by *Galienus* ſo highly eſteemed, that he gave him the charge of his ſonne, and by the meanes of his valour and counſell in Warre, hee overthrew all the Ty-

An. Dom. 261.

rants

rants of the *Roman* Empire to his glory, and terrour of the whole Universe. After the death of the aforesaid *Galienus*, he was by the *French* and the whole Army elected Emperor: In which government his workes and actions were so admirable, that with goodnesse and dexterity he gave compleat satisfaction to all. Lastly, when hee thought himselfe most secure in his government, hee was by the *French* murdered, together with his sonne. By whose death those which are too confiding to the goods of Fortune, may make usefull consideration, because in the ten yeeres wherein hee reigned Emperor, he well experienced the many mutabilities thereof.

49 *Flavius*

49. *Flavius Claudius.*

Anno Dom. 269.

THe 49 Emperor was *Claudius*, being a *Goth* by birth, and the second of that name, who was created Emperour in the yeere of the 262 *Olympiade*, who reigned onely one yeere and 9 moneths, being crowned to the great joy and content of the whole Senate of *Rome*. And so soone as he was confirmed in the Imperiall dignity, with just *An. Dom.* 269.

cause, and upon very good grounds he made warre upon the *Goths*, who had now for the space of 15 yeeres wasted, robbed, pillaged, and sacked all the Countrey of *Sclavonia*, and that of *Macedonia* by their wars and inhumane cruelties: and having gloriously overcome them, for so remarkeable and famous an act hee deserved to weare a Crowne of massive Gold even in his Palace for his greater Majesty and Magnificence. After that falling sicke, he dyed suddainly at *Smyrna*, *Quintilius* his brother supplying his place, a man no way inferiour to him for valour, wisedome, and goodnesse.

It was not without the Divine providence, that *Claudius* should finde the Empire so beset with enemies, that he might not put in practice those cruelties which hee intended against the Christians, whom he hated above all.

50 *Quin-*

70. Quintilius.

Anno Domini 271.

SEE said that *Quintilius* was the brother of *Claudius* not onely in blood, but in his behaviour, valour, and goodneſſe; and therefore upon the death of his brother, by the Senate he was deſervedly called *Cæſar Auguſtus* to his infinite praiſe and perpetuall memory. But becauſe *Aurelianus* was at the ſame time created Emperour

An. Dom. 271.

by the Army, and perceiving himselfe to bee in great inequality of force & power to resist the strength and power of so valiant a Commander, (called to that dignity and degree with the generall consent of so many most potent souldiers) fell into so deepe a melancholy and ill conceit, that hee coveting solitude, bent his whole intention to what meanes or way hee might preserve himselfe Emperor, and not finding any, he voluntarily after the seventeenth of his Empire, opened his veines in *Aquileya*, and dyed to the infinite griefe of those who had elected him: and had his Rites performed in a glorious manner, according to the custome of the *Romans*, and was inurn'd in *Smyrna*.

31. *Aurelius*

55. Aurelianus.

An. Domini 271.

Aurelianus was borne in *Dacia*, and succeeds in the Empire after the death of *Claudius*. Being a young child, hee was brought to *Rome*; where he became so learned, that had hee not beene stained with blood and cruelty, he had not come short, but equalled even the best of his Predecessors in laudable memory: because hee was

An. Dom. 271.

not onely in learning very knowing, but also in Armes most expert and valiant; so that taking the govern-ment upon him, he made warre up-on the *Goths*, and overthrew them horse and foote. Hee overcame in *Asia*, and tooke the Queene *Zeno-bia*. Hee conquered the *Catelanes* and recovered *France*; and retur-ning to *Rome* hee pompously tryum-phed. After that hee repaired the City-walls, adorned it with Tem-ples and Altars, and beautified it with edifices. Finally, by ill coun-cell hee persecuted the Christians with most rigorous execution, send-ding out Edicts and Proclamations to that effect all over the world, with an expresse order to apprehend and put them to death. Lastly, he was slaine suddainly in the way betwixt *Constantinople* and *Heraclea*.

This Emperor would not admit of any Co-partner of the Dignity Im-perial,

periall, but was wont to say, that *Hercules* was his Co-emperor, as it appeares in an old insculption: *Herculi Aug. Consorti D. N. Aureliani Invicti Aug. Respub. Pis, &c.*

52. *Tacitus.*

Anno Domini 276.

THE Fifty second Emperour of the *Romans* was *Tacitus*, and borne in *Poland*, who after the Death of *Aurelianus*, tooke upon him the Helme of *An. Dom.* 276.

vernment, and ruled onely five Moneths. Hee was a singular man, repleniſhed with eminent ſincerity, and had as much as could be wiſhed or deſired to be in man, and principally in all Heroicall acts that ought to be in all good Princes that governe their ſubjects peaceably, and in a way of gaining a love without flattery, and a feare without malice: He being knowne to be thus, was by the common acclaiming conſent both of the Senate and people choſen to this dignity. So ſoone as hee was elected Emperor, reflecting upon the deſerts of his Anteceſſor *Aurelianus*, he erected him a Statue of Gold, and placed it among their *gods*, cauſing all thoſe to be ſlaine that were any wayes acceſſary to the death of *Aurelianus*. The Senate by the election of *Tacitus*, thought all things reſtored, and to be rectified by the exemplar puniſh-

ment

ment of his Predeceſſors: he cauſed all perſecution to ceaſe. Hee was murthered by the treaſon of his Souldiers, although ſome affirme that he died of a Feaver, at the yeares of 66. He reigned 6 moneths.

It is found in *Flavius Vopiſcus*, and other Authors, that in *Terni* their Countrey, which was a Territory of the *Romans*, famous for Nobility and Gentry, there were Tombes erected to him and his brother *Florianus*, and Monuments by the *Greekes* called *Canotaphia*, and by the *Latines*, *Honoraria Sepulchra*; whoſe Monuments were without the gate of *Terni*, which is now called *Spoletina*, it having (before) the name of *the gate of the three Monuments*, neare the ſuburbane Orchards of the Marqueſſe *Caſtelli*.

53. Flo-

53. Florianus.

Anno Domini 277.

An. Dom. 277.

Florianus was the brother of *Tacitus*, being also a *Polander* by birth, both sprung from the *Claudian* line, a most potent family and Imperiall: of which linage as ancient recording memories yet extant doe testifie, one branch extended it selfe into *Vmbria*, and tooke a roote of residence at the Citty of *Terni*, which even

to

to the times of our now Grandsires hath beene the Mother of the most famous and invict Commanders and Captaines. This succeeds his brother *Tacitus* in the Empire neither by the election of the Senate, nor by the choice, good liking, or consent of the souldiers, but *mera regnandi cupiditate*, for the meere desire, nay, greedinesse of the rule and government, as true heire, and so by irreption takes it upon him. But this his greatnesse lasted not long; *Mole ruit sua*, *sinking voluntarily under the burthen*: because having heard the newes that *Probus* (a man for his singular quality worth the Empire) was elected Emperor by the Army, and seeing himselfe not any way able to resist his power, which was irrepugnable, fell into an extreame melancholy, which proved incurable; but by the opening his veines to let in death: Although

though some say, that he was slaine by his owne Guard neare the City of *Tharsus*, the third moneth of his Empire: And his funerall obsequies were richly solemnized at *Rome*, but hath a Monument erected at *Syrmio*; he dyed at the age of 23 yeeres.

54. *Probus.*

Anno Domini 278.

Anno Domini

IF this Emperor had not had this *Nomen* of *Probus*, being a native *Polander*, hee might justly

justly have had it given him as a Cognomen. Hee was the sonne of *Maximus* the Tribune. Hee was borne in the City of *Sirmio* as some affirme, in the Country of *Hungaria*. Hee made most noble impresses in Armes under *Valerianus*, *Decius*, and *Aurelianus*, and for his worth and valour being much beloved of the Souldiers, he was by the whole Orientall Army elected Emperor *anno Domini* 270, and by the Senate confirmed with a generall Jubilee, joy, and plaudite of every man: Hee was honoured with the title of *Cæsar Augustus*, and *Pater Patriæ*. No sooner had hee entered into the possession of the Empire, but hee recovered *France* newly over-run and mistrised by the *Barbarians*. Hee tooke *Saturninus* which molested the Easterne parts; and *Procolus*, (men well experienced in Warres) and for those victories tryumphed.

But

But although hee were a man worthy all humane greatnesse, nevertheless by his owne Souldiers hee was most cruelly murthered in *Ireland* his native soyle, in the 73 yeere of his age: he governed the Empire five yeeres, and for the love he got of the Christians, they erected a stately Monument in *Syrmio* to eternall fame. It is thought, that because hee suffered the Christians to live in peace, *God* gave him so many triumphant victories against the *Barbarians*, of whom he slew in one battaile above 40000.

55. Marcus Aurelius Carus.

Anno Domini 282.

Carus was an *Illyrian* by birth, whose admirable valour and for his generall knowledge in Learning and Military Art, was an occasion for his great honour and repute, that hee was made *Praefectus Praetorij* under *Probus*, to whom hee succeeded in the Empire in the yeere of *Christ* 282, and instantly with great rigour revenged *An. Domini* 282.

venged the death of his Anteceſſor *Probus*, and governing with *Carinus* and *Numerianus* his ſonnes, he made many noble and marvellous impreſſes in Armes, to the glory and exaltation of the *Roman* Empire, and particularly in *Meſopotamia*: after that hee ſacked the great Cities of *Seuen* and *Cteſphon*: for the which conqueſts in a ſhort time hee glorioufly gained the name of *Tremendus*, (the terrible) having terrified all theſe Nations which as yet had not beene ſubdued by him. Finally, by the wound of an Arrow he dyed by the River *Tigris* in the 43 yeere of his age, having governed the Empire one yeere and ſome moneths.

Some Authors who lived in his Reigne, write, that he was ſlaine by Lightning, and inhum'd at the famous City called *Syrmio* in *Hunga-*

Nume-

56. Numerianus.

Anno Domini 283.

TO *Carus* ſucceeds his ſonne *Numerianus*, being an *Illyrian*; who was both ſo eminent and excellent a Poet and Orator, that the Senate erected him a Statue in the *Vulpian* Library. In the wars he was alſo moſt valorous; he went with his Father to the warres againſt the *Perſians*: after which hee was both by the Army and people of *An. Dom.* 283.

Rome saluted Emperor *anno Domini* 283. And his father being dead, as we said before; hee fell into such a bitternesse and depth of mourning, that by the abundance of his teares he lost his sight, whereupon he was brought backe to *Rome* in a Litter, remaining victorious over all *Asia*. And supposing himselfe safely arrived (being somewhat comforted with a hope of ruling and governing the Empire, not by eye-sight, but by understanding) by a most unjust stratagem was slaine by his Father in law in his Sedan or Litter, having governed together with his Father and brother one yeere and some moneths, and in the 20 yeere of his age; and was buried by his father in the aforesaid City on the East-side, in which place his *Effigies* was set up in Brasse, as it was taken in his life time by the whole Senate and the Consuls for a memoriall to all ages,

for his sweete Elocution and Language.

57. Carinus.

Anno Domini 283.

TO *Carus*, *Carinus* was the second son, being of the same nation, who departing from his Father, tooke upon him the government of *France* and *Britany*, as also of *Italy*, and (as it were) of all *An. Dom.* 283.

the Westerne parts: In which government hee defiled his life in such sort with brutish and bestiall enormities, that his father would not acknowledge him for his sonne, and tooke from him the stile of *Cæsar* giving it to *Constantinus*.

After the death of his father and brother, he fell into a greater licentiousnesse than ever before: and in his time Ruffians and lewd men were possessed and estated in places of greatest dignity and honour. Harlots and Jesters, and such like were residenciaries in his Palace: But in the end advancing his forces against *Diocleſianus*, who was by the Army elected Emperor, and giving him battaile, in the last assault he was taken in *Dalmatia* by the souldiers, and brutishly slaine in the prisonhouse by the expresse command of *Diocleſianus*, having reigned a small time, and in the eighteenth yeere of his

his age, and had little or no funeral Rites bestowed on him, but was buried in *Syrmio* by night,

58. *Diocleſianus.*

Anno Domini 284.

Anno Domini 284.

Diocleſianus a *Dalmatin* borne and of a noble Family, a man of a ſharpe wit, and in Martiall affaires very valiant, was by the whole Army choſen Emperour.

Being poſſeſſed of the government, with his owne hands hee revenged the death of *Varro*. He declared and appointed warres in divers places, and remained victorious in all. There were nevertheleſſe warres made againſt him by ſundry Princes, and being of himſelfe not ſufficient for reſiſtance, he tooke *Maximinianus* to be his Co-emperor: and his enemies multiplying every where, he was at one time moleſted in the Eaſt, in *Affricke* and in *Egypt*; wherefore he choſe for his better aſſiſtance *Galerius* and *Conſtantius* brothers, as Emperors; giving each of them a charge of defending the places offended. Hee much perſecuted the Chriſtians. Laſtly, all the Empire being pacified by his induſtry and quiet, hee voluntarily reſigned the Crowne, and retyring himſelfe in *Salona*, he there ended his life by poiſon, at the age of 68 yeeres, and had

had funebriall Rites at *Milan* in *Italy*.

This Emperor had a vertuous Lady to Wife called *Serena*, who secretly professed her selfe a Christian, and much cherished and favored the Christians, and perswaded those that were her Attendants to be constant to death, but withall privately: This Emperour caused a whole Legion, 6666 of *Thebean* Chrjstian souldiers to be decimated, that is, every tenth man cut off, and then by the whole Army slaine, for refusing to sacrifice to the Idols, by the plot of *Maximilianus* his Generall.

59. *Maximianus Herculius.*

Anno Domini 287.

AMongst all impious and wicked men this *Maximianus* a *Polander* borne, was the worst, and a most subtile inventor of mischiefe, and especially in the persecution of the Christians under *Diocletianus*: But he was in Warre most valorous, and of an exquisite judgement and discourse upon that subject, whereby he obtained many victories

victories by battailes, for which returning to *Rome* hee pompously tryumphed. At the length by the intreaty of *Diocleſianus* hee betooke himſelfe to a private life a long time in *Milan*, where he ſojourned in quiet and very peaceable tranquility. Afterwards hee retired himſelfe to *Marſelles*, where he fell into ſuch a terrible and grievous diſeaſe in his entrailes and bowels, that hee could not finde any cure, and by the juſt judgement of God hee deſervedly dyed, being not onely hatefull to himſelfe, but even to all men, and was interred at *Milan* without any funerall ceremonies in the 68 yeere of his age.

60. *Val.*

60. Val. Constantius Clorus.

Anno Domini 291.

Anno Domini 291. *Constantius Clorus a Roman* borne, was the sonne of *Eutropius* a most noble *Roman*, and of *Claudia* the daughter of *Claudius Augustus*; for his noble valour, good behaviour and carriage was by *Maximinianus* made *Cæsar*. The aforesaid Princes being voluntarily resigned the government of the Empire, he considering the greatnesse

of

of the weight and burthen, refused all other government whatsoever, but onely that of *France*: Which he furnished with things necessary, salutiferous, good Lawes and customes more than ever any his Predecessors had done: which are yet an ornament, yea, a Majesty to all the ancient Nobility of that Kingdome. He subdued *Britany* to a then generall content and satisfaction of our Nation: He molested not the Christians, and under his government every man was incredibly content and satisfied. Finally falling sicke at *Yorke*, he dyed in the 13 yeere of his Imperiall dignity, and at his age of 63.

61. *Constan-*

61. Constantius Galerius.

An. Domini 304.

Anno Domini 304.

ALthough this *Galerius* were ignoble by blood, being an *Hungarian* by birth, he was nevertheleſſe ſo famous for warlike enterpriſes, that *Dioclesianus* adopted and made him *Cæſar*. After his victory gotten againſt *Narſeus*, he was created *Auguſtus*, and he adopted *Maximianus* and *Severus*, *Cæſars*: and *Severus* dying hee gave his ſucceſſion

ceſſion to *Licinius*. He was bloody and moſt cruell againſt the Chriſtians: but falling into a dangerous ſickneſſe, he imagined that it came upon him for the martyrizing and banniſhing of the Chriſtians: wherfore recalling them, he earneſtly intreated them that they would pray and intercede for him to their God: and commanded further, that no affliction ſhould bee inflicted upon them. Whoſe prayers (peradventure ſo was the Divine Will) nothing avayled him, but his evill rather increaſed, and his torments augmented ſo, that he dyed like a beaſt of a moſt cruell and filthy diſeaſe, having reigned two yeeres abſolute, and ſixteene in the company of other *Caſars*.

This *Conſtantius* ſhewed himſelfe favourable towards the Chriſtians, and had many of his Houſhold ſervants Chriſtians: Hee told them, that

that unlesse they would sacrifice to the Gods as formerly they had done, they should not serve him, but be gone. When hee saw that they went away, rather then they would forsake their God, hee recalled them into his service, and turned away his Pagan Servants, as likely to prove perfidious unto him, who preferred honours before Religion.

62. Maxi-

62. *Maximianus.*

Anno Dom. 304.

Maximianus an *Hungarian* borne, was Nephew to *Galerius*, wherefore hee was by him adopted, and after that although hee were ignoble, yet hee became to be *Augustus*. He was nevertheleſſe noble in his behaviour and geſture, in vertues likewiſe; ſo that he might equally parallell any Soveraigne or Prince whatſoever. *An. Dom.* 304.

He

He honoured much the learned, and familiarly embraced them, taking infinite pleasure and complacency in any noble Science or Study. Hee was of a very quiet and temperate disposition, but very amorous, and a great lover of wine, by which being many times overtaken, he most imperiously commanded, and like a mad-man: wherefore hee deferred matters of state and moment unto audience and Judgement. He greatly persecuted the Christians, and the Church at that time suffered no small detriment. Fighting a certaine battaile he was worsted much, together with *Licinius* his Co-emperor; and not willing to come into the hands of his enemies, he strangled himselfe; but as some report, hee stab'd himselfe in *Tharsus*, having governed 7 yeeres, and had sepulture in *Dacia* with small ceremonies, being obscurely buried.

63. *Severus.*

63. *Severus.*

Anno Domini 304.

MOre for the cruelty against the Christians, than for nobility of descent, or degree of honour, this name agreed to this *Severus*, his Nation being unknowne; having barbarously invented strange, exquisite, and new manners and wayes of persecutions against the Christian Religion, and its humble servants; whose con- *An. Domini* 304.

stancy in the holy faith made the Tyrant amazed, astonished, and mad with himselfe. He was by *Galerius* called *Cæsar* and *Augustus*. Whilest he was President in *Affrick* and in *Italy*, the *Pratorian* souldiers by a seditious mutiny created *Maxentius Augustus*, who was the sonne of *Maximianus*: against whom *Severus* marching with a powerfull Army, came before the Citty of *Rome*. But within few dayes perceiving his souldiers inclining rather to *Maxentius* than to him, and questioning his owne person and life, he fled into *Sclavonia*, which being by the souldiers mistrusted, they overtooke him in *Ravenna*, and by them was there most miserably murthered in the second yeare of his reigne, being respectlesly interred where he was slaine.

64. *Maxen-*

64. *Maxentius.*

Anno Domini 306.

BY the reason that *Maxentius* was the son of *Maximianus*, an *Hungarian* by descent, he was by the greater part of the Senate elected Emperor: In his government hee followed the steps of his Father in persecution of the Christians, yea, even with a greater rigour he would exceed and goe beyond him; appremiating those *An. Dom.* 306.

which could propose neweſt and cruelleſt wayes of martyrdomes and afflictions. And amongſt the reſt of his cruelties which hee uſed, (not by the inſtigation of any man, but out of his owne invention and and furious braine) this was one: That (being a *Necromancer*) hee ſlew Chriſtian women being great with child, and tooke the children yet unborne out of their wombes, the aſhes whereof he uſed in his execrable art, to make himſelfe greater in authority and power: All which availed him nothing; becauſe that fighting with *Conſtantinus the Great* upon a Bridge, hee was by him throwne and drowned in the river *Tyber*, which happened in the fift yeere of his reigne, having no other ſepulture then the River.

This Emperor uſed to joyne the living bodies of men with other dead carcaſes, and being chain'd mouth

to

to mouth, hee caused them to bee tumbled up and downe,

65. *Licinius.*

Anno Dom. 310.

Licinius a *Dacian* borne, being a man knowne to be singular and rare in feates of Armes, was by *Galerius* made Captaine Generall, afterwards Co-emperor. For wretched avarice and bestiality of lust, hee was knowne to be most *An. Dom.* 310.

dissolute, and hee was so ill bred, and extravagantly drowned in ignorance, that he became an enemy of all litterate and learned men, terming them the skum and filth of men, endeavouring by all meanes that men should shun and avoid them as a poyson or a contagious plague. He grew so insolent and proud for one onely victory which hee obtained in the East, that hee slighted and contemned *Constantinus*, and began to increase his cruelty and tyranny against the Christians: Whereupon *Constantinus* opposed himselfe, and they both joyning battaile, this Tyger was put to flight in the Countrey of *Pannonia*, and intending to reinforce his cause, was in his owne campe by his owne souldiers massacred in *Thessalonica* at the age of 50 yeeres, and of his government 14, and was carelesly cast into a pit, having no other respective funerall

66. *Marti-*

66. Martinianus.

Anno Domini 312.

Martinianus, a *Sclavonian* by Nation, a man meanely borne, but well experienced in the Art Military, was for that cause made Generall of the Horse. He was created Emperor and *Cæsar* in *Bizantium*: but in a short time he lost both dignity and life: because being taken in *Thessalia* with *Licinius*, by the expresse command of

Anno Domini 312.

Constantine they were both murthered by the Souldiers; and therefore not having left any memoriall behinde him but this example, that we may see and know, that many were raised to the Imperiall dignity more by sedition, ambition, and interest in their souldiers, than by any their just desert, claime, or title to such a degree. But it is no wonder that in a manner all or most of them died immaturely and unfortunately; being they had neither a meane, order, or regular way of governing themselves, much lesse others; living for the most part dissolutely, not reflecting on the Proverb, *Qualis vita, Finis ita: Live well, dye well.*

67. Constan-

67. Constantinus Magnus.

Anno Domini 312.

CONstantine, a *Britan* by Nation, a man most valiant, and worthy in a manner of an Empire more than any one of his Antecessors: after the death of his *Father, he was elected Emperor. He overcame all the Tyrants of the Empire, and recovered all rebellious Countries: wherefore hee entered into the City of *Rome* in wonderfull pompe. *An. Dom.* 312.

* I suppose it is meant *Constantius Clorus.*

pompe. He began to persecute the Christians, wherefore (peradventure by the divine will and pleasure) he was so infected with a Leprosie, that the Physitians left him as incurable. But the heavenly Grace was his assistance; for being asleepe in the night, hee saw a vision telling him, that if he desired to recover his health, hee should recall *Silvester* the Bishop, and all the Clergy from exile. Which thing he performing, and being baptized, he was immediately cured. And increasing in devotion, hee built many Churches to the glory and honour of God. This Emperor would say in praise of Age, that Age appeared to be best in foure things: Old wood best to burne, old Wine to drinke, old friends to trust, and old Authors to read of. Moreover he said, that there was but this difference betweene the death of old men and

young

young men: that old men goe to death, and death comes to young men.

This Emperour built a City called by his name *Constantinople*, whither hee after translated the Imperiall seate. And being at the age of 66 yeeres he passed to a better life, to the great griefe of all, and especially of the Christians then living, whom he did entirely love and cherish. Hee obtained the sole Monarchy of the whole Empire, and every where restored peace to the Church. He was protected divinely in all his wars: he exhorted all men to *Christianity*, but compelled none. It was thought that he was poisoned of his brothers at *Nicomedia* in *Greece*, and had pompous funerals worthy of so great a man, at the City of *Constantinople* which hee had lately built.

68. *Crispus.*

68. Crispus.

An. Domini 314.

An. Dom. 314.

Britan by birth was *Crispus*, who by his Father *Constantine* was elected Emperour, and honoured with the title of *Cæsar*: hee was a man so proper and compleate in the beauty of person, that *Fausta* his Mother in law fought by all meanes possible to allure and intice him to her lust: unto whom he by no meanes willing to consent, by his

his vertuous obstinacy converted her vicious love into an extreamity of hatred, insomuch that she accused him to his Father for a forcible violator of her chastity: To whose words *Constantine* giving credit, caused the vertuous young man to be miserably put to death at *Pola* in *Histria*. But not long after, this fallacy of the Mother in law comming to light, and the innocency of the chaste young man (worth an eternall memory) being manifestly discovered, the wicked Step-mother sought to excuse the incestuous malice with the pretence of her plot, to wit, That *Crispus* should not be a hinderance to the honour of her sonnes in the Imperiall claime. But at length by the perswasion of *Helena*, (who was infinitely grieved for the death of her Grand-child) the wicked step-mother was put into a hot bath, wherein shee breathed her

her last, and suffered a death too mild for such an impious and treacherous impurity.

This Emperor was taught and instructed in Learning by the famous *Lactantius*: It is evident that he was singularly qualified, valiant, and fortunately victorious. *Helena* his Grand-mother much lamented his immature death, which was not onely suddaine, but mischievous, and grievd the whole Empire, who by that meanes were deprived of so hopefull a Governour.

69. *Constan-*

69. *Constantinus.*

Anno Domini 314.

Constantine was the second of that name. After the death of his Father *Constantine the Great*, the Empire was divided into many parts, but that of *France*, *Spaine*, the *Alpes*, *England*, and *Scotland* did befall to his charge; but not contented with these, hee pretended by hereditary right that also of *Italy* and *Affrick*, which hee demanded *An. Dom.* 314.

manded

manded by way of Embaſſie; but not obtaining his pretended cauſe, he made Warre upon his brother *Conſtans* Commander of thoſe parts. And after many bloody battailes he was alwayes victorious, with a grievous maſſacre and ſlaughter on both ſides: But at length *Conſtans* gathering new forces and ſupplies, came upon him with a terrible aſſault, and routed him, putting his ſouldiers to flight, ſword, and priſon, moſt of them cut in peeces: himſelfe alſo was mortally wounded, and falling from his horſe, he was ſlaine neere *Aquileya* at the age of 25, of the which hee governed onely three.

This Emperor by divine aſſiſtance overcame the *Almans*, *Britans*, and other powerfull Nations: hee recalled *Athanaſius* from baniſhment, and reſtored him to his Biſhopricke of *Alexandria*, of which hee was formerly

merly deprived. Thoſe Warres which he raiſed concerning his right unto the government of *Italy* and *Affrick*, did mightily oftentimes diſturbe his minde: Whereupon hee would uſually ſay to his Commanders of his Armies, Let there be no malice in the proſecution of my cauſe towards my Brother uſed: for I grieve when I thinke, that wee whom God and Nature created for union, ſhould by divelliſh ambition and covetouſneſſe be divided. Howſoever hee continued his warres undertaken, though with a great reluctancy; as deſiring rather to imploy the ſouldier, than advantage himſelfe. This Emperor had a petition offered him divers times by an old Cittizen of *Rome*, and ſtill he was anſwered by the Emperour, *That he had no leaſure*: whereupon the old man ſaid aloud, *Why then give over to be Emperour.*

70. Constans.

Anno Domini 314.

An. Dom. 314. THe division of the Empire being made upon the death of the *Great Constantine* the Father, *Constans*, one of the sonnes, takes upon him the possession of *Italy*, *Affrick*, and all the Isles of *Sclavonia*, *Dalmatia*, *Macedonia*, and *Achaia*. He fought against his brother, and having slaine him, in a short time he made himselfe master of

of all *France*. In the beginning of his government hee was a famous Prince, and juſt: but afterwards altering his life wholly, changed it into a worſe, giving himſelfe ſolely to pleaſures and ſolaces with ſuch diſorders, which cauſed him inſupportable paines in his limbes, and eſpecially his joynts, whereby falling into a loathing and deteſtation of himſelfe, and a generall hatred of the whole Empire, a conſpiracy was complotted againſt him: and a certaine *Magnentius* being created Emperour, ſome to give *Conſtans* content, or (perhaps at his owne requeſt) ſlew him, but lamentably, as he repoſed himſelfe in his Pavilion at the foote of the *Pyrenean* Mountaines, neare a place called *Helena*, at the age of 30, and of his government 13 yeeres.

He governed after his Father in *Italy*, and many other Provinces of

the Empire, and after his brother whom he slew, he writ menacing to his brother *Constantius*, for the restitution of *Athanasius*, who lamenting the death of the Innocent *Crispus*, doubted not to terme him a Martyr.

71. *Constantius.*

Anno Domini 325.

An. Dom. 325.

Constantius also the sonne of *Constantinus Magnus* and *Fausta*, was created *Cæsar* in

the liew of the vertuous and innocent *Crispus* unjustly slaine as is before mentioned. Hee was happy in his civill warres, and wonderfully active in throwing a dart. In the division of the Empire the Easterne government was assigned him with the Seate at *Constantinople*. In his time the *Arrian* Sect much flourished, whereby he was much assisted: whereupon there was a Councell called and held in *Laodicea*, whither *Arrius* came with many of his adherents, and also many Christians, and many Bishops and Prelates disputing concerning matters of Faith, were confined and punished by this *Constantius*, himselfe being an *Arrian*. But by the death of his brothers, hee remaining sole and absolute in the Empire, he governed warily, and with prudence: Nevertheless by the *Roman* Senate two Emperours were created, against whom he declaring

claring open warres in battaile overthrew them, and therefore by the Army hee was entituled *Augustus*. And being 45 yeeres of age, hee sickened of a bloody flux, and shortly dyed, being buried in *Constantinople*.

This Emperor put his Uncles and many of the Nobility to death, suspecting them to have poysoned his Father *Constans*. He declined to the *Arrian* Sect, hee caused his Uncles sonnes *Gallus* and *Iulianus* to be brought up in good Litterature: hee inhibited Magicke and Idolatry upon paine of death, and dyed in the opinion of an *Arrian*.

72. Magnentius.

Anno Domini 350.

CONSTANS the aforesaid Emperour raised this *Magnentius* of a youth, a *French man* by birth; and although he were vemeanely borne, nevertheless hee caused him to bee trained up in the Military Art, insomuch that hee made him Generall of his forces in *Sclavonia*; in which government he was protected from death by *Con-* *An. Dom.* 350.

ſtans, and in liew of requitall he ſlew him moſt ingratefully, and by ſubtilty creepes into the Imperiall ſeate *anno Domini* 350, and comming into *Italy*, he created his brother *Caſar* in *Milan*, and gave him the *Alpes* in charge to ſecure *France*. *Magnentius* afterwards fighting a battaile againſt *Conſtantius* (who thirſted the revenge of his brothers death) was by him overthrowne and vanquiſhed, with a great ſlaughter of his men, and muſtering up the reſidue of his Army he fled to *Lions*, where not finding himſelfe ſecure, his life in hazard, nor any hope of recovery, ſlew himſelfe with a knife at the age of 53, and the ſixth moneth of his government.

This *Magnentius* was ſpurd on onely *Regnandi cupiditate*, *With the deſire of command*, and ſeeing himſelfe to fall ſhort of his expectation, every way deſpairing, firſt ſlew his owne

owne Mother, then his Brother, and lastly himselfe, (as I said before) and by much soliciting of his friends to the Captaines souldiers, interred at the place of his death.

73. *Decentius.*

Anno Domini 350.

Decentius, a *French man* born, was created *Cæsar* in *Milan*, as is before mentioned, and instantly *An. Dom.* 350.

instantly commanded to the *Alpes*, for the defence and tuition of the matters of *France* which was now tottering, and in a manner falling into an open rebellion against the Empire, which perhaps would have so happened, had it not beene curbed and held in action in divers parts at once, which dissipated their forces, and disabled them for resistance and defence. This Emperor either for non performance of any laudable acts, as for the shortnesse of his life, hath left not any memorable thing to posterity, but onely this, that having understood the unfortunate and miserable end of his brother, taking it to the heart, and fearing to fall into the hands of the enemies of *Magnentius*, intended his owne death, and as a most impatient and furious mad-man, having not brought to perfection his private plots and designes, fastened a garter

a garter about his necke, and without the helpe or hand of any man strangled himselfe.

74. Iulius Apostata.

Anno Domini 356.

IVlian being a man most learned in the *Greeke*, and admirable in the *Latine* tongue, and of a most strong and able memory, was wondrous affable, courteous, *An. Domini* 356.

ous, and liberall to all, and as one aſpiring greedily to honour, prevailed farre with *Conſtantius* the Emperour, that hee was made by him Generall of the forces in *France*, and alwayes remained victorious in all occaſions of warre. This man denyed the faith of Chriſt, and therefore was termed the *Apoſtata*, or *Renegate*, and renounced his Deaconſhip: Hee became an Idolater, cauſing himſelfe of his Army to be called Emperour. In which dignity ſuppreſſing all vertue and juſtice, hee impiouſly began to perſecute the Chriſtians with extreame cruelty, putting them to moſt intollerable torments, and infinite numbers ſlaine, and many ſent into exile. Moreover, he wrote a booke againſt the Chriſtian faith.

Euſebia, the wife of *olim Conſtantius*, her ſelfe being barren, envied

vied that *Iulian* should have any issue successive to the Empire, fraudulently perswaded *Helena* his wife to use such things as might cause abortion. But when she had conceived, and brought forth a sonne at *Roan* in *France*, *Eusebia* by seeing the Mid-wife, caused the navell of the new borne Infant to be cut more than ordinary, and thereby utterly destroyed it. *Theodo. lib. 3. Cap. 20.* *spond.*

It is likewise recorded by *Theodoret*, that as soone as *Iulian* felt himselfe most miserably and grievously wounded in the left arme with a *Persian* Dart which was infected with poyson, hee furiously, and in great anger tooke a handfull of his blood, and flung it upwards in the ayre, saying, *Vicisti Galilæe?* meaning our Saviour *Christ*; as if he had said blasphemously, *O thou of Galile, hast thou over-*

come

come me? and so most impiously dyed, railing against *Mars*, that having promised him assistance, and failed him: against *Apollo*, that had deluded him with false and vaine promises: and lastly, against *Iupiter*, because hee had not his Thunder-bolt ready to kill that party that flung that Dart, and slew him; and so he dyed in *Mesopotamia*, and was intombed at *Tharsus* in the 32 yeere of his age.

75. *Iovini-*

75. Iovinianus.

Anno Domini 363.

Iovinian was borne in *Pannonia*, and trained up in a worthy way and manner: and because every man had an estimation and hopefull conceit of him, that at length he would grow great, and valorous withall, being as yet but a youth was made Generall of the Army. *An. Dom.* 363.

After the death of his Predecessor he

he was by the whole campe called *Cæsar Augustus*, which titles he absolutely refused, unlesse they would every man become Christian, himselfe being first baptized, which was an act most Christian-like: Which the whole Army did also put in execution after his memorable example: and after that, they promised and swore him fealty and allegeance. Hereupon to his incredible joy and comfort hee accepted the Crowne, and redeemed many out of the tyranny of the *Barbarians*: his common speech was thus, *O that I might governe wise men, and wise men governe me.* Afterwards hee was enforced to surrender unto *Sapores* King of the *Persians* a great part of *Mesopotamia*, and other places. And being now growne to the age of 39, falling into a grievous disease of the weakenesse of his stomack, he passed to a better life and

dignity,

dignity, having in all his Reigne continued a professor of the Christian faith, and restored it every where; streightly commanding the Temples of the Idols to be shut up, and forbidding all manner of Gentilitious sacrifices. He dyed at *Rome*, and his funerall obsequies were in a most sumptuous manner celebrated in *Pannonia*, though he was interred at *Rome* neere to the Capitoll, on the East side; for they held it most for his honour to be so buried. *Baro.*

N 75. *Valen-*

76. Valentinianus.

Anno Domini 364.

An. Dom. 364.

VAlentinian an *Hungarian* by birth, being Captaine of the *Scutaries* in the Citty of *Nicea*, was by the whole Army created Emperour; really against his owne will or desire; knowing, that he should be as it were a prisoner to his thoughts, as all good governours and rulers ought to be: and therfore would father enjoy his private li-

*Targuetiers.

berty

berty, than enchaine it to so great a charge: And therefore he tooke *Valens* for his Copartner in the Dignity, (a man whom hee highly esteemed) to who he gave the charge of the Easterne government. Hee was wonderously addicted to Religion, and highly esteemed of all the Christians, because he favoured them: Hee restored to the Churches their former priviledges, liberties, and possessions which the other Emperours had sold, or given away, (as *Ammianus* writeth, and *Zozimus*) hee brought under, and kept in subjection all *Gallia*, *Rhetia*, *Almaine*, *Saxony*, *Scots*, and *Britans*, the *African Moores*, *Thracians*, and *Armenians*. Upon his gold coynes were ingraven these words and characters, a Crosse with the name of *Christ* cut in it, and the Motto for the Emperour, *Reipublicæ Restitutor*: his saying often was, *That Gold was*

tryed with the Touch-stone, and men with Gold. Hee also forbad all Idolatrous sacrifices by Night, and all Magicians (as *Zosimus* witnesseth) he restored all professors of Christianity, (whom *Iulianus* had forbidden to teach or practise before) and recalled them honourably to their places and preferment, and confirmed it by a Law in these words; *si quis erudiendis &c. If any one that is fit, and willing to teach and instruct children and youth, and whose life is good and just, let him get and procure his Auditory a new, or settle himselfe in his old office.* And after a while of his reigne, by the perswasion and intreaty of his wife, hee made his sonne *Gratian* Emperour. *Valentinian* howsoever in Armes and Military command, and in all other vertuous worth was very generous, and overcame the *Burgundians* and *Saxons*, adding them to the

Bar. in vit. Val.

the Empire. This Emperour viewing over the lives of the former Emperours, read the cruelty of *Nero Cæsar*, and amongst the rest, that he had a Boy cut, as if hee would have transformed him into a Woman, and called him wife: This Emperour answered, *It was pitty* Nero's *Father had not such a wife.* Lastly, following on his Warres against the *Sarmatians*, hee sickened of a Flux, or (as others write) of a suddaine passion of anger, and shortly dyed, having governed one yeere, and five moneths, and was interred at *Constantinople.*

Valens.

Anno Domini 365.

Anno Domini 365.

Valens was brother to *Valentinian*, and Uncle to *Gratianus*, with whom he governed foure yeers, beginning his government *An.* 365, Hee at first recalled *Nazianzen* and *Bazil* from baniſh nent; he was baptizedy by *Eudoxius*, but turned *Arian* afterwards, and perſecuted the Orthodox

Orthodox Bishops of the East, and sent by his Mandat *Eusebius* into banishment, as also *Pelagius* Bishop of *Laodicea*, and *Gregorius Nissenus* was condemned by the *Arrians*, at the command of the Emperour: He also caused 80 of the Christian Embassadors that were then in *Constantinople*, to be all sent to Sea in one Ship, and then to bee set on fire, which was effected; and not left unpunished, for immediately after a most lamentable Famine raged through all *Phrygia*, and in *Constantinople*. He continued the persecution against the Christians very much, and made a Law, that all the Hermites of *Nitria* and *Thebais* should beare Armes in the field, or else to bee most cruelly beaten, which they rather chose to endure voluntarily, than to abandon or forsake the desarts. Through the avarice and imprudence of this Tyrant, the

the *Goths* began with great assaults and fury to breake in upon the *Roman* Empire, and remained victorious, having put almost the whole Army to the sword: in which terrible conflict *Valens* himselfe was mortally wounded, and escaping with great feare and fright, he made to a little Village with very few of his men, where hee supposed hee might lye hidd with safety: but the *Goths* comming thither, and happening on him, burnt him, and barbarously like themselves, left him without sepulture, to the prey of beasts and birds: but as others write, he was burnt at *Adrianople*.

Tempore Gratiani.

78. *Gratia-*

78. *Gratianus.*

Anno Domini 367.

THis Emperor *Gratian* being in controversie with another about the time of his election, sent a message unto him that stood for it, and to some of the Citizens that did adhere with him, that if they did not presently consent unto his desires, hee would bring such huge numbers of men in Armes over the *Rhine*, as their horses should drinke *An. Dom.* 367.

drinke that River dry, that they ſhould be able to paſſe it, and not wet their feet: which threatning they feared, and with all joy receiued him to be their Emperour, and he began his reigne in the yeere of Chriſt 367. He was borne in *Pannonia*, a man ſingular in Religion, and a brave ſouldier: for in one battaile againſt the *Tuſcans* hee ſlew above 30000 ſouldiers, that had waſted and ſpoyled the *Roman* Country and Territories. He expelled out of *Italy* all ſorts of hereticks, and all the people being reduced to the faith of *Ieſus Chriſt*, he cauſed all the ruin'd and demoliſhed Churches to be re-edified. But the *Gothes* a freſh renewing their warres againſt the *Romans*, the Republick fell into great perplexities and agonies upon the outrages and barbarous cruelties which the *Gothes* dayly inteſted them with: Whereupon *Gra-*

tian

tian chose for his *Coadjutor* in the Empire *Theodosius* a *Spaniard*, an excellent Souldier, who in a short time overcame the *Tuscans*, and made a League with the *Goths*, and other Nations.

Gratianus in the sixth yeere of his Reigne was slaine at *Lyons*, and passed to a better life, leaving an exemplar testimony of his worth to the memory of all posterity, and lyes inhum'd at *Constantinople*, neare the East gate of the City, where there was a Chappell erected for some speciall Festivall dayes and meetings, at the Cities charge.

79. *Maximus.*

This man governed but a very short time in the dayes of Valentinianus, *but was a wise and excellent Orator.*

THis *Maximus* the Great was borne of the most noble race and family of *Constantine*, by whom hee was made Emperour in * *Brittaine*, by the reason hee was well experienced in Warre, and a singular good Commander. His worth being accompanied, or rather enabled

* England.

enabled with an Imperiall power, was the cause that hee with a facile easinesse tooke in all *France*, bounteously enlarging it, and honourably augmenting it. After that departing thence, he tooke his journey towards *Italy*, with a wondrous great Army every where compleat, with intent to take in *Rome*, the head-City of the Universe: which *Valentinian* (the younger) much fearing, fled with his Mother *Iustina* to *Constantinople*, but finding a favourable and fortunate succour of *Theodosius*, hee returned back againe over the *Alpes*: and comming to *Rome*, he found *Maximus* in a confident quiet, whom hee finding without defence, assaulted and slew him in his Palace neare the Capitoll, to the great griefe of all his souldiers, the place of his interment being not certainly knowne.

This Emperour *Maximus* being demanded

demanded of one, What kind of man he esteemed most fit and worthy to be a King, *Such a one* (saith he) *as neither glorieth in his good fortunes, nor is daunted with adversity.* At another time, when one complained unto him, that the City of *Constance* in *Almaine* had not free use of their liberties and franchises, hee answered, *If they had not great liberty in the Towne of* Constance, *thou which art one of that City, wouldst not speake unto me so liberally; for frankneſse of speech is a signe of liberty.*

He also said, *That as* God *would be both loved and feared: so should Kings and Princes be: for there can hardly bee any true love, where there is no feare.* Moreover, saith hee, *There be three degrees of persons who ought to be both loved and honoured; first, God above all, and in all places: Secondly, Kings and Princes in their Kingdomes, and estates: and lastly,*

Parents

Parents and Masters in their private families.

80. *Valentinianus Iunior.*

Anno Domini 376.

THis *Valentinian* the yonger was elected Co-emperour by his Brother *Gratianus*, and charged with the government and defence of *Italy*: but being much *An. Dom.* 376.

much in feare of *Maximus*, (who as some said, had privately wrought the death of his brother *Gratian*) he fled for ayd to *Theodosius*, by whose rescue he overthrew and slew *Maximus*, and without controversie, with an excellēt judgment, and good government every where he held the Empire in peace: after which victory he would often speak with a merry heart, *I have escap'd the evill, and found the good.* This man not long after, to please his Mother, followed the most impious *Arrian* Sect, notwithstanding the good advice of *Theodosius* to the contrary. Hee persecuted the Christians very severely, not omitting, but taking all occasions of utterly extinguishing them to his possible power.

In *France* he slew *Victor* the sonne of *Maximus*: lastly, remaining in *Vienna* (as he thought) secure in serene peace and tranquillity, *Eugenius*

the

the Tribune secretly entering his chamber, there strangled him, and was inhum'd at *Millan* with funebriall rites.

31. *Theodosius.*

Anno Domini 379.

Heodosius was a man of excellent parts, for behaviour singular, for vertue rare, for goodnesse to all admirable, not onely loved, but reverenced with feare *An. Dom.* 379.

by every man; and wonderfully devoted to our Saviour *Iesus Christ*; wherefore he extinguished the hereticks, and overthrew the Tyrants. And amongst the rest of his vertues Humility was most eminent in him. Hee governed the Empire alwayes with a greatnesse, and majesty convenient for such a state and degree. He would never judge, determine, or give sentence against any man being in passion or anger, which hindereth the restitude of sense, and true judgement in any man; but in such cases he went discoursing upon some act of piety and vertue, thereby to quitt passion, and cleare his understanding. Moreover, this Emperour making preparations for war against *Eugenius*, expressly forbad his souldiers to exact of their Hostes where they were to be billeted, or lodged any more than was came freely from them: and also that

that whosoever of them should curse the Emperour, (*viz. Theodosius*) should not be punished for it: saying, *Quoniam si id ex levitate processerit, contemnendum est: si ex insania, miseratione dignissimum: si ab iniuria, remittendum est. Because if it proceedes of levity, it is not to be regarded: if of madnesse, it is to be pitied: if from an injury or wrong, it is to be pardoned in them.* Sozomenus relateth, that in the yeare 394, and the last of *Theodosius*; that in *Epirus* there was a Dragon seene of such bignesse, that being dead, eight yoakes of Oxen could hardly have drawne him thence. Soz. lib. 7. cap. 25.

In the 22 yeere of this Emperours reigne there were great losses by Earthquakes in sundry places, as in the Imperiall City of *Constantinople*, at one time there fell downe 57 Towers of the City-wall, though it was new built up: And not onely

here, but also in other places, as *Alexandria*, and in *Antioch*, as also famine and ill sents in the Ayre, by which many thousands of people and beasts perished. This Earthquake endured fixe Moneths, constantly overthrowing many faire and goodly Churches, and Fortresses in *Constantinople*, as also in *Chersonesus* it did swallow up whole Parishes, it raged by Sea as well as by Land, it devoured many ships, nay, whole Ilands; but it raged most in *Bithynia*, in *Helespont*, and *Phrygia*, and the Easterne Countries. The Citizens of *Constantinople*, and the Emperor *Theodosius*, with the Patriarch *Proclus* left the City, and remained in the fields, praying to God for preservation, as saith *Nicephorus*.

Lastly, this incomparable Prince to his age of 50 governed most vertuously and victoriously, and then to the griefe of his friends, and lamentable

mentable moane of the whole Empire, he deceased in *Milan* in the presence of *Saint Ambrose*, Archbishop of that See, and was honorably interred according to the *Roman* manner.

82 *Arcadius.*

Anno Dom. 383.

Arcadius began his reigne after the death of his Father *Theodosius anno* 383, and *An. Dom.* 383.

governed together with his brother *Arcadius* 13 yeeres. Dividing the Empire betweene them, *Arcadius* tooke all the Easterne part, and *Honorius* the West, and either governed his charge with singular prudence, temperance, and modesty, overcomming all those difficulties as are wont to happen to all young beginners in Magistracy; and in particular they suppressed the arrogant insolency of their Tutors, appointed them by *Theodosius* their Father, they being as yet very yong, whom they put to death, because they pretended to governe as their fancy served, contrary to equity. Nevertheless this *Arcadius* was a Prince so well beloved, and ruled so well and commendably, that the Senate said of him, *That it had beene good, either that hee had never beene borne, or that he might never dye.* It was alwayes his opinion, never to enterprize

enterprize any Warres, except it were upon great necessity; saying, *That whatsoever Prince would live in peace and quietnesse, he ought not in any case to entertaine Warres slightly or unadvisedly, for a Sword is soone drawne, but not so soone put up.* Whensoever his choler grew to be inflamed, he would suddainly withdraw himselfe out of company, and being alone would pronounce over all the Letters of the Alphabet each after other with leasure, to the intent that in meane time his wrath and anger might waxe cold, and be asswaged; saying diverstimes to his attendants, *That he that cannot subdue his choler by nature, must doe it by art and cunning.* Finally, *Arcadius* having reduced the Empire to a peaceable tranquillity, governing in great quiet, falling sicke passed to another life, to the generall sorrow of all, at the age of 31 yeeres.

83. *Honorius.*

Anno Domini 394.

nno Domini
94.

AFter the death of the aforesaid *Arcadius*, *Honorius* takes the Easterne government upon him, and together with his Nephew *Theodosius*, sonne of *Arcadius* he governed 15 yeeres. In a very short time hee overcame *Constantine* the Tyrant in *France*, in the City of *Arles*, together with a great

number of his *Complices ejusdē farinæ homines, men of the like cruelty and condition.* Whensoever hee appointed any one to be punished openly, he caused the common Cryer with a loud voice to pronounce this Sentence, *Doe not that to another, which thou wouldst not have done to thee.*

In his time the Empire was infested with most bloody and cruell warres, in which alwayes (by a discreet military order, & through the resolution of his Souldiers) he came off victorious with honour.

In the fourteenth yeere of this Emperours reigne, at noone-day a strange fire from Heaven penetrating the great Church of *Constantinople*, fastened upon the Bishops seate, and consumed it: Afterwards growing up like a Tree, fastened upon the roofe, and devoured it: And lastly, passing through *Spond. in Hon.*

through the midst of the people without hurting any, to the great amazement of all, seized upon the Senate-house, and burnt it to ashes. Afterwards the whole Empire being pacified by this worthy Emperour *Honorius*, and the Senate-house re-built, hee fell into a grievous sickneſſe, whereof hee ſhortly after dyed in *Rome*, after the fifteenth yeere of his Imperiall command: He had two wives which dyed both ſuddainly before the conſummation of Matrimony, and Virgins both.

84. Theodosius.

Anno Domini 402.

Onorius being dead, his Nephew *Theodosius* tooke upon him the whole Imperiall government, and governed with *Valentinianus*, the sonne of his Aunt *Placida* 22 yeeres. Hee found the Empire in great disquiet: Hee lost *Affrica*, and a great part of *Egypt*: and in *Hungaria*, in *Britannia*, and other Countries by treason and fraudulent *An. Domini* 402.

dulent dealing many Cities were taken from him. And because he fore-saw it at his first entrance to the Crowne, hee therefore gave the West to his Consort *Valentinianus*. He was much puzled in *Affrica*, howsoever hee by his valour and singular prudence overcame all difficulties, yea, and through his great courage recovered many Countries and Provinces usurped by one *Iohn*, and confederate with *Aetius*, who were a cause that the *Hungarians* came into *Italy*, and spoyled it.

Moreover, there happened so great a famine in *Rome*, that of the barkes of Trees they made Bread, and the best *Romans* were forced to make Bread of Chesnuts; yea, and some gave fifty pence for a pound of flesh: and it grew so scarce, that many were famished, and dyed with hunger, and their bodies sold by

Josephus.

their

heir kindred at a high value: inſo-
much that the people cryed out to
he Emperour ſitting to behold the
eſtivall ſpoits at that time of the
eere, that he ſhould impoſe a cer-
aine rate for mans fleſh: his ſaying
was ſometimes, *That Emperours*
of all other men were moſt miſerable,
becauſe commonly the truth is conce-
led from them! And at this time the
ayre being corrupt, *The odoſius*
dyed without an Heire.

85. *Valenti-*

85. *Valentinianus.*

Anno Domini 426.

An. Dom. 426.

VAlentinianus, the sonne of *Constantius* and *Placida*, was entituled both *Cæsar* and *Augustus* by his Antecessor *Theodosius*, and by him sent to *Rome* against *Iohn* an usurper of the Empire, for which service he victoriously triumphed. He made truce with *Genserico* King of the *Vandals*: he warred against *Attila* King of the *Huns*,

Huns, and fought it out neare unto *Tolosa*: which battaile was so cruell, terrible, and bloody, that on both sides there fell more than an hundred and fourscore thousand persons, besides an infinite number maimed and wounded; and *Attila* himselfe fled halfe dead with a very small company that attended him. He slew *Heruus*, whose death was boldly revenged by his friends without any respect of persons: For *Valentinianus* being in *Campo Martio* at *Rome*, was set upon by them, wounded and slaine, being not able to make any notable resistance.

In this Emperors time that famous & learned Doctor St. *Augustine* dyed, *anno* 430. St. *Patrick* the Patron of *Ireland*, began to convert that Country to Christianity. In the yeere 446 the *Picts* invaded *England*, and the same yeere there was such a terrible Earthquake continuing

ing for the space of sixe moneths together; insomuch that the people forsooke their houses and Cities for feare of the ruines, and infinite disasters which did happen both by Sea and Land.

Galla Placidia, the Mother of this *Valentinianus*, a singular good Christian; and a woman of a great and wonderfull solid judgement, dyed neere the *Campo Martio* in *Rome*, having beene daughter, sister, wife, mother, and step-mother to *Roman* Emperours.

86. *Martianus*

Anno Domini 450.

AFter the death of *Theodosius*, *Martianus* succeeded in the Empire, (who was supposed to bee a Spaniard by Nation) and governed seaven yeares together with *Valentinian*. Hee was a good Christian, and singular favour of them: He married the sister of *Theodosius*: In the time of his govern-

Anno Domini 450.

ment *Alemannia* was loſt, and *Dacia*, *Spaine* and *Mauritania* likewiſe, together with *Gaſcoigne*, which could never be recouered.

In his time St. *Vrſula*, with eleuen thouſand Virgins were martyred by *Attila's* ſouldiers. In the ſixt yeare of his Imperiall ſway, *Maximianus* a noble *Roman*, married by force *Eudoſia*, which was already wife to *Valentinianus*, & imperiouſly began to tyrannize and uſurpe the Empire: which being underſtood by the *Vandals*, they immediatly marched with a very powerfull army, and came to *Rome*, where they ſlew him, and caſt him into *Tiber*; and hauing ſacked the City, they returned into *Affrike*, carrying *Eudoſia* and her daughter with them; who was the cauſe of the death of this Emperor.

There happened in the fourth yeare of his reigne, ſo great a famin in *Italy*, that many ſlaues and poore

peasants were inforced to sell their children for money to buy Bread, and to pay their tribute: But *Valentinian* ordered and commanded that they might be redeemed againe at the same rate; likewise it was followed with a vehement pestilence, which destroyed in short space many thousands of people in those parts; it being not within the compasse of humane power to stoppe or hinder it, because sent from a supreame hand which is unresistable.

37. *Leo.*

Anno Domini 457.

An. Dom. 457. UPon the death of *Martianus*, *Leo* (being by Nation a *Grecian*, of the City of *Thebes*) was choſen to ſucceede, being a man indeede worthy of ſuch a degree. About that time the *Roman* Common-wealth was ſorely perplexed by certaine tyrannicall uſurpers, which endeavoured to encroach and arrogate

gate the Throne, and in particular *Genſericus* King of the *Vandals*, who came into *Italy* with a puiſſant army to that intent: Which by *Leo* being perceived, cauſed him to bee affronted with two ſeverall armyes at once, neare *Papolonia*, by whom *Genſericus* being overthrowne, hee privately retyred in a diſguiſe home into *Africa*: After this *Aſpera* m an very noble and powerful in *Conſtantinople* together with his two ſonnes complotted, & intended the death of *Leo*, & to murther him: but the treaſon not taking effect, with their owne deſerved death, they meritoriouſly ſuffered that, which to another they intended. In fine, *Leo* being in peace, with the *Oſtrogothes*, fell ſicke, and ſhortly after dyed at his Imperiall City of *Conſtantinople*, and there Inurnd, leaving his Nephew to ſucceede.

Marcellinus reporteth *Anno* 458,

that *Vesuvius* a burning mountaine of *Campania*, did cast forth its burnt bowels, and covered the face of *Italy* not onely with nocturne darkneſſe in the day, but alſo with a ſmall kind of duſt and aſhes, which bred by the heate of the Sunne ſuch ſtrange monſters, that is almoſt incredible, ſuch as *Geſner* an Hiſtorian juſtifies, and makes mention of both by nature and figure.

arcel. in bron.

88. Leo Iunior.

Anno Domini 474.

HIs Leo was Nephew to the aforesaid Emperor, of the same Country, but not of the same City, for he was borne in Corinth in Greece: Hee was repleni-shed with all the qualities necessary for a well-disposed and good Prince, for which singularity of parts he was so highly prized and esteemed of

An. Dom. 474.

Leo his uncle, whom he could not endure out of his sight, in whose goodnes he took such complacency, & pleasure more then ordinary, (as he said) and by him conceived the sole solaces, and contenting recreations in the *interims* of the weighty affaires belonging to an Imperiall Crowne: Whereupon falling sicke, he immediately created this *Leo*, *Augustus* and successor. But reflecting this to have been done in his fit, and feeling himselfe sicke to death, with his owne hands crowned his owne Father *Zeno*, and declared him Emperor, intreating that hee would bee pleased to governe the Empire with the greatest integrity, and good justice, as befitted a just Prince; which *Zeno* promised: and *Leo* retired himselfe to the private life of a Christian, and vertuous man; and paied nature her debt at *Vienna*, the Metropolis in *Austria*.

39. *Zeno.*

Anno Domini 374.

TO the vertuous sonne *Leo* the discreet father *Zeno* succeeds, a *Gracian* of the countrey of *Cilicia*, a man well beloued and reverenced of all men. This good Prince understanding, and having newes of the creation of a new Emperor in *Constantinople*, rather choose to returne to his former privacy, than any wayes disturbe the Republicke *Anno Domini* 374.

lick or Common-good by any forces of his. But Almighty God disposed these things otherwise for this dissention: For the *Constantinopolitan* Burghers or Aldermen, being not able to endure the insupportable injuries of the new Emperour *Basilicus*, (so was he called) betook themselves to *Zeno*, and confirmed him their Emperor and Governour; who, the affaires of the Empire being composed to the generall good and quiet of all, confined this *Basilicus* with his noble family into *Cappadocia*. Hee overthrew *Odoacer* which much disturbed *Italy*: and afterwards he instituted many most wholesome and commodious Lawes. But in the end many turbulent seditions being raised in *Constantinople* to him irremediable, he dyed as some report with griefe: As others write, after hee had reigned seventeene yeeres and five moneths, hee dyed a death befitting

Appendix.

fitting such a man. For being surprised with a fit of the falling-sickness, which long hanted him: Or as *Euagrius* saith, out of an excesse of eating and drinking, or as dead drunke, and being ordered as a dead man, was buried alive; but when hee was heard out of the Vault to implore his servants and guard most dolefully & lamentably to let him out thence, not to governe the Empire any longer, but to resigne it, his wife *Ariadna* forbad them strictly to doe it; so he miserably perished.

Euagrius lib. 3. cap. 29.

90 *Anastasius.*

Anno Domini 491.

Anno Domini 491. THis Emperour was by Nation of *Macedonia* in *Greece*, and having taken possession, the better to confirme himselfe in that *esse*, combined by a present and speedy course, and by donatives of great value, with *Cladoneus* King of *France*, by whose meenes hee was established in the Dignity and State. He seemed a great lover of the Christian Religion: but afterwards by the

the perſwaſion of *Acatius* Biſhop of *Conſtantinople*, a man tainted with the hereſie of *Arianiſme*, began to follow and embrace it: for which being reprehended by *Hormiſda* Biſhop of *Rome*, by the way of Embaſſadors ſlighting the with contempt, and diſmiſſing them, ſaying, *That it belonged to the Emperour to reprehend the Popes, and the Popes ought not to reprehend Emperours*: and this anſwer he made with great indignity and ſupremacy. Wherupon as * an *Italian* Author ſaith, were it for ſo great an inſolency and pride, or other errors, in the preſence of his Peeres and all the Court, by the divine judgement hee was wounded with a Thunderbolt, and ſo dyed ſuddainly after hee had governed 26 yeeres. A little before his death, ſaith *Baronius*, there were ſeene terrible earthquakes and other prodigies; and hee was often terrified in his ſleepe with fearefull viſions,

* *Sūmario delle vite de gl' Imperatore Romani, &c.*

Appendix Baro.

visions, amongst which this was one: A man of a sterne looke, holding a booke in his hand, saying, *Ecce, ob perversitatem fidei tuæ, annos quatuordecim vitæ tuæ deleo: See, for thy perversnesse of beleefe, I put out fourteene yeeres of thy life*: And being premonished by the Oracle that he should dye by fire, although hee sought all possible precautions and preventions thereof. *Anno* 518. 9 of *July* a most fearefull lightning with a clap of Thunder terrified his very heart so, that he went from chamber to chamber, from couch to couch, and was carried into the neathermost part of his Palace in a cave or cellar, where no light did appeare: yet for all that was strucke dead with lightning at *Constantinople*, and no substance or moisture found in his body at all, but dryed like a pot-sheard, or a bone burnt in fire.

Annot. Misc. 11.15. Zonar. Annot. part. 3

27. *Iustinus.*

Anno Domini 523.

Iustinus a *Thracian* by nation, was called out of bondage to the Empire: He was really a lover and professor of Christian Religion, and as it were a defender thereof: he opposed all heresie, and banished all *Arrians* out of *Constantinople*: Whereupon King *Theodoricus* *An. Dom.* 523.

cus a fautor of that Sect, being much disgusted, forced and constrained Pope *Iohn* with many of the noble men of *Rome* to goe to the Emperour, to perswade him to restore the *Arrians*, and recall them: otherwise, that hee would doe the like, nay, worse to all the Clergy and Bishops in his Kingdome: which through feare was by the Pope performed. And returning backe with the *Roman* Barons, the Kings demand being not performed, the Pope was immediately imprisoned, and there starved through hunger. The good Emperour perceiving this, and being now very aged, had no desire of revenge, but dyed with griefe as all Authors report, in his chiefe City of *Constantinople*, to the great discontent of the Christians, having chosen his Nephew *Iustinianus* to be his successor.

In the eight yeere of his Reigne,

on

on a Fryday at *Constantinople*, 5 *Calend. Iunij*, at dinner-time there was such a suddaine Earthquake, that with it and other strange magicall charmes the Winds blustering every where in the house, blowing the Kitching-fires about, bred a double destruction to the people, both of ruines and fire mixing together: and *Euphrasius*, Bishop of that City, having at that time his head strucken off by the disaster, was intombed in the fire. *Euagr. lib. 4. cap. 5.*

92 *Iustinianus Magnus.*

Anno Domini 527.

An. Domini 527. IVstinian, an *Illyrian* by Nation, was a very zealous man in the Christian Religion, and of a singular learning and wit rather Angelicall than Humane. Hee reduced all the Imperiall lawes into one volume, and to the *Codex* hee inserted the *Digests* and *Authenticks*, by the which the whole world is directed for the maintenance and conser-

vation

vation of States. He overcame the *Vandals*, tooke the City of *Sale*, and freed all *Italy* from the tyranny and cruelties of the *Goths*. He subdued the *Moores* which wasted and spoyled *Affrica*, with whose spoiles the famous Captaine *Belisarius* built two stately Edifices in *Rome*, and founded a worthy Monastery in the City of *Orsi*, and endowed it with sufficient revenues for the maintenance of the religious, as also many famous Churches. By the example of his Captaine Generall this Emperour also in *Constantinople* famous all over the world in the honour of the most holy *Trinity* and *St. Sophia*. And having to his most honorable memory enlarged the Empire, hee fell into a strange disease, and became a starke foole, and so he dyed franticke, and was buried at *Constantinople* in the yeere of his age 83, and of his Empire 38.

Anno 560, in this Emperors reigne *Clotarius* King of *France*, having a ſonne *Chramnus*, who had often ſtowne out, and after ſome reconciliation had, having forgotten his former promiſe and duty to his King and Father, fell into an open rebellion againſt him, and after that received remiſſion: At length hee raiſed Armes the third time againſt his Father in the leſſer *Brittannie*, and being taken alive, was by the command of *Clotarius* ſhut up in a cottage, together with his wife and children, (by whoſe inſtigation hee was ſpurred on to this rebellion) wherein they were all burnt to death.

93 *Iustinus Iunior.*

Anno Dom. 566.

QUite contrary to his worthy Anteceſſor was this moſt unworthy *Iuſtinus*, an *Illyrian* by nation, and a man moſt bitter, cruell, avaricious, unjuſt, perfidious, fraudulent, a contemner both of God and man: he would often utter theſe words, *With whom ſhall wee live at laſt? wee kill armed men in Warre, and the unarmed* *Anno Domi* 566.

armed in peace: But by the divine Justice he lived not long in impunity, defiling himselfe with sundry sorts of baseneſſe, becauſe dietings and the moſt exquiſite nutriments, nor Phyſicke could afford him any aſſiſtance at all, but grew continually from bad to worſe. Whereupon becauſe *Sophia* his wife (although wiſe enough for a woman) governed the Empire untill the time of *Tiberius* the ſecond: but being a woman ſhee was not much feared, becauſe in her time the *Longobards* over-ranne and poſſeſſed all *Italy*: but before this *Juſtinus* recovered, he adopted *Tiberius* as his ſonne, and pronounced him *Auguſtus*. And (as ſome ſay) he built a City in *Iſtria*, now called by his name *Juſtinopolis*: Againe falling ſicke, his diſeaſe fell into his feete, whereof hee dyed at his Imperiall City of *Conſtantinople*, not having any great pompe or ſtate at his

his funerall, all being rather glad in his death, than grieving for it; because of his vicious conversation and government.

94 Tiberius.

Anno Domini 576.

Tiberius being adopted *Augustus* by his Predecessor, succeeds in the Imperiall dignity *An. Dom. 576.*

dignity according to his worthy deſerts: He was a *Thracian* by nation, a man repleniſhed with all ſplendor of vertues, and all other excellent qualities beſeeming a Chriſtian Prince. Hee was moſt indulgent to the poore, to whom he deſtributed the whole treaſure of the Empire. Wherefore (peradventure) Almighty God made him ſo abundantly wealthy, and extraordinarily rich, that very ſhortly hee became poſſeſſor of all the treaſures of *Narſetes* the Eunuch, which were of an invaluable eſteeme and price. He recovered likewiſe *Perſia* with many rich ſpoiles, and ever protected and defended the *Roman* ſtate from all treacherous annoyances whatſoever: And in particular he releeved it in an extreame famine and dearth. Perceiving himſelfe at laſt haſtning towards his laſt day, by the advice of *Sophia* his Mother in law, hee left

Mauritius

Mauritius his ſonne in law ſucceſſor in the Imperiall throne, which much advanced his greedy deſire of governing, becauſe *Tiberius* in few dayes after paſſed to a better life at *Conſtantinople* in his Court vſually kept in that part of the City which lies next to the Sea, a place abounding with all ſorts of pleaſures, as of exquiſite Gardens, Fiſh-ponds, rare proſpects, curious walkes and perambulatories befitting ſo great a Majeſties reſidence.

95 *Mauri-*

95 *Mauritius.*

Anno Domini 583.

Anno Domini 583. MAuritius ſonne in law to *Tiberius*, was borne in *Cappadocia*, and in his tender age gave great teſtimonies of a great ſpirit, making demonſtrations of acts and qualities moſt Princelike. Whereupon for his magnanimity, greatneſſe of courage, and virtues he deſervedly aſcended to the moſt

invi-

invict degree of the Empire. And having taken possession, to his great honour he recovered *Armenia* and *Persia*. Afterwards hee gave himselfe over to a bad life, persecuting *Gregory the Great*, and animating the people against him; and also persecuted greatly the Church. Wherefore by the Divine Judgement hee suddainly dyed, an Angell having visibly fore-told it in *Constantinople*, that the Emperour should be slaine with a knife.

Mauritius dreamed one night not long before his destruction, that himselfe and all his issue were slaine by one *Phocas*: and having made diligent inquiry after such a man of that name, found that there was but one so called in his whole Army, who being but a poore clarke of a band, slighted him. Lastly, his souldiers seeing him in a miserable perplexity, and that hee had not duely *Scip. du Plessi.*

duely given them their pay, they mutinied, and chose *Phocas* for their Emperour, who persecuted *Mauritius* even to *Chalcedonia*, where he tooke him, his wife, and children before his face, and to aggravate his sorrows, hee slew them, and lastly him in the twentieth yeere of his Reigne, and was intombed at *Constantinople*, in a Temple (as some report) builded by himselfe with admirable cost and lustre, as well for the materialls, as also for the modell, and largenesse of it.

96 *Phocas.*

Anno Domini 602.

THis *Phocas* being by Coun- *An. Dom.* 602.
trey a *Gaule*, and but a *Centurion*, was nevertheleſſe by the whole Army created Emperor. He was entertained in *Conſtantinople* with wondrous joy, and exceeding great honour, and to confirme his greatneſſe, there was a Statue erected to him in *S. Ceſarius* amongſt the former Emperors. But not long after

after changing his activeneſſe into a ſtupefying ſloth, hee became ſo idle, that *Perſia* revolting was loſt, and many other Provinces to King *Coſroes*, which King ſacked and ſpoiled the City of *Rome*, impriſoning *Zacharias* Patriarch of *Ieruſalem*. Hereupon *Phocas* became more cruell, and by that meanes hee loſt ſtill more and more. Which the people of *Rome* being not able to ſuffer, not without great reaſon they raiſed *Heraclius* againſt him, who being vanquiſhed, was brought manicled with Irons to *Heraclius*, who looking upon him, ſaid, *Thou wretched fellow, haſt thou thus governed the Republick?* To whom hee anſwered, *Thou maiſt governe it better*: Upon which reply *Heraclius* ſpeedily apprehended him, and with great boldneſſe and courage commanded ſome of his ſoldiers to cut off his hands and feete, and then

his

his members, causing a stone to be fastened to his other limbs, and therewithall to be cast into the Sea: and as some Authors report, the soldiers burned his body in revenge at *Constantinople*.

97 *Heraclius.*

Anno Domini 611.

HIs Emperour *Heraclius*, an *African* by birth, was replenished with Heroicall qualities, *An. Dom.* 611.

qualities, and in particular in Chevalry, and other military knowledge, that all men admired him. Hee had an ardent desire that the *Christian Religion* should be propagated and enlarged: and to that end he sought to take in *Persia*, at that time growne a Treasury of all manner of Riches, and there he repaired the ruined and demolished Churches.

Chosroes the Persian King, after many overthrows hee received by *Heraclius*, in his last flight finding himselfe ill, and endeavoring to make his younger sonne *Mardesa* King, *Syroes* the eldest understanding it, plotted with the Peeres the destruction of his father; and so pursuing his Father, at last overcame him, and then put him to extreame usage, loading him with Iron fetters, and guives about his necke and legs, putting him into the darke

house

house which *Chosroes* had newly built, and so by him learned, to lay the money and treasure which hee had got by Christian spoiles: where hee had a very little quantity of bread and water, sufficient onely to keepe him alive; but was almost famished, that hee did eate his owne flesh off his armes, or as farre as hee could reach with his teeth: And likewise his son commanded these Peeres which detested him, to abuse and kick him, beate him, and spit upon him, bidding him eate his belly full of that gold and silver which he had taken from the Christians.

Lastly, he tooke his younger brother *Mariasses*, and all the rest of his brothers, and commanded them to be slaine before his fathers face, and five dayes after caused his father to be pricked to death with needles.

This Emperor *Heraclius* brought the Crosse of our Lord backe againe

to *Hierusalem*, which had beene violently, and by force of Armes transported by the *Persians*. At which time the feast of the *Exaltation* was instituted. Returning to *Constantinople*, he retired him to his study and grave consultations; and in particular hee much delighted himselfe in the study of *Astrology*, by the too much knowledge therein hee became an Hereticke, and by the divine will *Antioch* and *Hierusalem* were taken by the *Sarracens* and *Arabians*: whereupon hee supposing to have lost his reputation, grew into a fitte of extreame melancholy, and so into a Dropsie, and thereof dyed at *Constantinople*, and was there inhum'd with great solemnity.

Theoph. lib. 10. Card. 18. Hera.

Anno Domini 613.

Anno Domini 613.

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ther imagined, or required in a Princely governour; for which hee was universally beloved of all men. But it oftentimes comes to passe, that the good become more hateful than the nocent and culpable: for this man was hated and abhorred by *Martina* his Mother in law; who fought by treacherous devices to worke his end, and accelerate his fate; but not able to bring it to effect of her selfe, shee acquainted her sonne *Heraclion* with this her diabolicall intent; who being instigated and spur'd on with the desire of so great a dignity, promised her to poison him without the knowledge of any man: and so this unjust and impious brother performed it most cruelly at a great and sumptuous Banquet in *Constantinople*, with a bunch of Grapes. This villanous and heinous act was perpetrated not without horrour of

conscience in the undertaker, and griefe of the Souldiers. Which most inhumane impiety when it was divulged, or generally knowne, his losse was much lamented of every man, and in the end sufficiently revenged by those that affected his government, and loved his person: for seldome have the indignities and injuries offered to Princes, gone long unpunished upon the persons that were the perpetrators.

Anno Domini 641.

An. Dom. 641.

HEraclion, an *African* borne, so soone as hee had murthered his brother, hee tooke the Imperiall sway & management upon him, and reigned together with his perfidious step-mother *Martina* two yeares. Taking the possession hee began to live not like an Emperor, but like a most unworthy

thy man, crowning himselfe with gemmes of a thousand impieties and bestialities. This being talked and discoursed on by the people man to man, every man wished his death, or at least his deposing, which soone followed: for he handling the Senate and Citizens of *Constantinople* with too great cruelty, they immediately revolted, and apprehending his Mother in law *Martina*, they cut out her tongue, and his nose, honouring them both in making them ride as it were in triumph for their indigne memory, they both remaining deprived of those parts, and of the Empire, to the generall content of all.

100. Constantinus 3.

Anno Domini 643.

An. Dom. 643.

HIs *Constantine* the third, an *African* by Nation, was Nephew to *Heraclion*, not much unlike him in conditions: For he was a wicked and perverse man, an heretick, and a ruiner of the Republicke: hee was most basely avaricious with all men, and prime in all manner of wicked

actions.

actions. He made warre upon the *Lombardes*, by whom he was overcome, and in desperation came towards *Rome* with a great number of souldiers; and comming to *Puglia* with incredible unjustnesse and without all compassion he raced the City *Lucerin*.

Afterwards comming thence to *Rome*, he entred it with 20000 souldiers, wasting and ruinating the primest and stateliest ornaments of that most famous City: he also sacked, spoyled, and defaced the Churches. Departing thence, hee went to *Syracusa*, alwaies accompanied with infinite vices, and in particular with that of impurity and lust: Wherefore one day being in a Bath, hee was murthered by his owne attendants, having governed 25 yeeres, and was inurn'd in *Syracusa* that renowned City, where *Archimedes* practised his rare inventions.

In the twelfth yeere of this Emperors reigne, (as it is recorded by an ancient writer) one of the seaven Wonders of the World, the *Colossus*, *alias* the Image of the Sunne, which was placed in the Haven of *Rhodes*, which was of that hugeneſſe, that ſtanding (as it did) ſtraddling, it was no ſoote high, and being before diſjected by an Earthquake, was at length broken by *Mauwias* Prince of the *Saracens*, and ſold to a Jew; who loaded 900 Camels with the braſſe whereof it was made.

spondanus.

101 *Constantinus* 4.

Anno Domini 654.

By the reason that this *Constantine* was a good Christian, modest, and replenished with all morall vertues, succeeded in the Empire with the *beneplacitum*, or good liking of all the Christians. In the government whereof he tooke for his *Co-regnatores* or Co-emperors *Heraclius* and *Tiberius* his brothers. He re-edified

Anno Domini 654.

many

many Churches that were defaced and demolished by the Hereticks, and built many other most noble and sumptuous. Hee overthrew the *Sarazens* which much annoyed and molested the *Romans*, and made them tributaries and subjects in despight of them to his great honour, and to a general quiet of their neighbours, before much infested and troubled by those barbarous and cruell people. Hee returned afterwards to *Constantinople*, to unite the *Greeke & Roman* Churches. He assembled at the instance of Pope [illegible] the sixth Councell: in which it was permitted to the *Grecian* Priests to contract Matrimony with a lawfull woman. Finally, having lived most Christian-like, he dyed Saint-like in the 17 yeere of his Empire at *Constantinople*.

In the tenth yeere of his Reigne a vehement plague infested not onely

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the City of *Rome*, but many other Cities of *Italy* for three moneths, *Paulus* and *Anastasius* are Authors. as *Paulus* addeth moreover, that at *Rome* there visibly were seene of many, a good Angell and a bad to goe from house to house: the bad having a Javelin in his hand, and as many stroakes as he gave at any doore, at the command of the good Angell, so many dyed out of that house the next day. The Divine power hath often imployed Angels to be the executioners of his just commands against wicked Cities and Kingdomes.

Paul. Diac. lib. Hist. Long. cap. 5. Anast. in Agathum.

102 Iustinianus 2.

Anno Domini 686.

IVstinian sonne to the aforesaid Emperour, and of the same Country by birth, was in his beginnings a man very Christian-like, pious, and liberall: Hee enlarged the *Constantinopolitan* Empire, and composed many most profitable and wholesome Lawes, alwayes highly honouring the *Christian*

tian Religion. But soone after hee shewed himselfe inconstant and variable against God and man: because hee broke the peace already made with the *Saracens* and *Hungarians*, by whom hee was much distressed. Returning to *Constantinople*, hee made himselfe odious to all the Comminalty, by endeavouring to disanull the aforesaid decree and order made in the sixth Councell aforesaid, which was celebrated in his Fathers time. And likewise hee sought to put Pope *Sergius* to death; whereupon the whole City arose up in Armes against him, making *Leontius Patricius* their Generall, who immediately opened all the prisons, and freed all that were condemned by *Justinian*, and chasing him out of the Imperiall command, he caused his nose to be cut off, and banished him into *Cersonia*, an Island of *Pontus*. Being on the

Sea

Sea in the way to his banishment, and by tempests in extreame perill of casting away, was admonished by a familiar friend of his, that hee should make a solemne vow to God, that if hee recovered his Imperiall Crowne, he would forgive his enemies, which if I doe (said he) God sinke me here in this place, which he performed, having recovered it by entring into *Constantinople* by an Aque-duct, and every one of them he could light on, found him heavy in his revenge.

103 *Leontius.*

Anno Domini 696.

Leontius, borne at *Constanti-* *An. Dom.*
nople, succeeds *Iustinian*, and 696.
governed three yeeres very peaceably. This Emperour having intelligence that *Affrica* was revolted, arose from *Constantinople* with an Army, every man well fix't, compleate, and powerfull: and in the *interim* of this his expedition and voyage, newes was brought him to his

great perplexity, that the *Constantinopolitans* had elected *Tiberius*, a man of an ancient and very noble family, for Emperour: Whereupon hee falling into an outrage and passion, by no meanes would endure this affront, but presently retreating, hee mett his Antagonist in the field, where each endeavoured their utmost in a pitcht battaile, which was not without great effusion of blood: but *Leontius* was taken prisoner by *Tiberius*, and had his nose likewise cut off, as he had done the like to his Antecessor *Iustinian*, and was confined to a perpetuall imprisonment there to live in misery, and in great contempt, where hee shortly ended his life.

104 *Tiberius* 3.

Anno Domini 699.

Tiberius the third of this name, born at *Constantinople*, was of an ancient and very noble family, (as is above mentioned) and through the sedition of the Commialty was made Generall for *Affrica*, nd by his Army created Emperor *nno Domini* 699. Hee did use to eare his Seale of his Armes engra- *Anno Domini* 699

ven in the pummell of his Sword: and he was wont to say, whensoever hee set his Seale to any Letters of Edict, Ordinances, or Commissions: *See this Sword that shall maintaine my Ordinances, and which shall make Warre against those who shall contradict mine Edicts*: His meaning was, that it is not a matter of so great importance, to establish and make good lawes and decrees, as it is to cause them to be kept and observed.

This Emperor made his brother *Heraclius* a Generall, whom he sent into the East against the *Agarens* with a powerfull Army. He endeavoured to put *Iustinian* to death who was now exulant in *Personia*: but notwithstanding all his plots to that purpose, he prevailed nothing, nor could he bring his intent to any effect. Whilst hee returned towards *Constantinople*, *Iustinian* was recal-

led

The same contradictions I finde in most Authors, as *Heliodore*, and the *Italian* Summary.

led as Emperor, who having understood that his death was sought, and by all possible meanes wrought by *Tyberius*, hee suddainly caused him to be imprisoned, and not many dayes after, hee not onely deprived him of his Imperiall Dignity, but of his life also; commanding that in the presence of all the people his head should be disgracefully struck off, in the seventh yeere of his Soveraignty, his trunke or carcasse being deprived of funebriall solemnity and rites befitting the dignity and personage of an Emperor.

105. Philippicus.

Anno Domini 712.

An. Dom. 712.

THis *Philippicus*, a *Constantinopolitan* by birth, being the prime Favorite of the greateſt Potentates of the World, ſucceeds in the Empire, becauſe hee was a man of ſingular courage and wiſedome. He confined *Cirus* the Patriarch into the Iſle of *Pontus*, but with the good liking of all them of

Constantinople: and this he did, because he followed the orders of the *Roman* Bishop; in whose place imperiously and boldly hee placed a yong Abbat, *a pestilent Hereticke, and sent him to *Rome* for his confirmation. Which moved *Constantine* the Bishop of *Rome* to passion, who called a Councell in *Rome*, wherein hee reprehended all elections made by the Emperour: and moreover condemning all his opinions, he declared him an Hereticke. Yet this man persevering in his opinions, was by *Anastasius* chased out of the Soveraignty with great disgrace and contempt, his eyes being first pulled out, he afterwards dyed without any note, and obscurely interred.

* Arrian.

106. *Anastasius.*

Anno Domini 715.

An: Domini 715.

Anastasius, otherwise called *Artemius*, whose place of birth is not certainely knowne, having pulled out the eyes of his Antecessor, and also out of the Imperiall throne, impatroned himselfe in the Orientall government in the yeere of Grace 715. Hee was so good and just in every action, that

hee deserved more than the onely name and title of Emperor. He re-edified many Churches defaced by the *Arrian* Hereticks. He wrott to the Bishop of *Rome* with great humility and reverence, protesting that his will was ever to continue a defender of the holy Christian faith. Whilest hee had sent a great Army towards *Alexandria*, many Princes either through malignity or curiosity turned the same Army upon and against him, creating another new Emperour called *Theodosius*: whereupon there grew infinite, troublesome, and pernicious seditions in the world every where. Finally, after many insupportable discontents and troublesome tedious passages, hee was by *Leo* the third murthered, in the first yeere and third moneth of his Empire: but as some write hee was forced to undertake a Monasticall life.

107. *Theodo-*

107. Theodosius.

Anno Dom. 716.

Anno Domini 716.

THeodosius the third, borne at Constantinople, tooke upon him the administration of the Empire the yeare above-said, but held it one onely yeere. This man was of a very inferiour and meane Family, the servant of a Pagan Scrivener: But having attained to the Imperiall dignity, he was a wonderfull lover, and zealous in the

the Christian Religion; and to make it the more appeare, and as a visible demonstration thereof, hee caused many Images of Saints to be pourtraicted, and in divers places erected them. But being every way pursued and persecuted by *Leo*, he chose a better part, taking Priesthood upon him, and living Christian-like, full of charity and Christian duty. After that he retired himselfe into a Monastery, where he lived very exemplarly, and there he continually persevered to his last day at *Constantinople*.

108. *Leo.*

108. Leo.

Anno Domini 717.

Anno Domini 717.

THis Emperour, an *Isaurian* borne, was contrary to his Predeceſſor, being a man infamous. Seeing that he could not oppoſe the Biſhop of *Rome*, he ordayned that all his Subjects ſhould pull downe the Images of Saints, and other Statues which were in Churches, alleadging that they were for no other uſe but Idolatry:

Idolatry: The which command *Germanus* the Patriarch not willing to obey, hee was by him confined, and *Anastasius* an *Arrian* was ordayned in his place, who by a Councell was deprived, and by the same Councell *Leo* was exhorted to recant this errour, and not to hinder good and pious men to use their devotions to the Images. But the Emperor would by no meanes consent thereto, but grew more exasperate and contemning: whereupon *Gregory* the Pope, and the whole Councell sentenced him to be deprived of the Empire, and hee dyed at *Constantinople* in the fourteenth yeere of his Empire.

Paulus Diaconus, together with *Anastasius* affirme, that within the City of *Constantinople* there dyed of pestilence and famine above three hundred thousand persons of all ages and both sexes, *Anno.* 719.

The

The Answer of this *Leo* to one that would be made a Gentleman.

This Emperor being at his Palace, a Citizen of *Bologna*, exceeding rich and wealthy, but of base parentage, presented himselfe before the Emperor, saying, May it please your sacred Majesty to make and create me a Gentleman: for I have wealth sufficient to maintaine the state and degree of a Gentleman: The Emperor answered him, *I can make thee much more rich than thou art, but it is not in my power to make thee noble: for that is an honour which thou must purchase by thine owne virtue.*

109. Constantinus 5.

Anno Domini 720.

THis man, being also an *Isaurian* by birth, following the steps of his Father, persecuted good men exceedingly; and in what hee could, hee destroyed all good lawes and customes; bent himselfe to witchcrafts and enchantments, and to a thousand infamies; and as a common *Anno Domini* 720.

common enemy to *Christian Religion*, he followed the *Arrian* sect of *Athanasius*, Patriarch of *Constantinople*, by whose persuasion he caused many Priests to be put to death, with many Monkes and good Christians: Wherefore the Pope desirous to reforme his errours, and to reduce him to better courses, sent Embassadors unto him, exhorting him to quitt himselfe of that pernicious sect: but they and the Popes Embassie were not onely slighted, but contemned and scorned: whereupon he was excommunicated. Upon this he contracted a new League with the King of *Bulgaria*, a man like himselfe in every quality and condition. This man enjoyed the Empire very happily in respect of his owne person: but when, or where he dyed it is doubtfull: but some doe affirme that hee dyed at *Adrianople*.

When

When this Emperor was baptized, he defiled the Font with his ordure: whereupon it was Prophetically conjectured, that much mischiefe would bee by him perpetrated: wherefore hee had the by-name of *Copronymus*. He was called also *Caballinus*, because this Monster of men was so much delighted in horse-dung, that hee wallowed or anointed himselfe in it, and commanded his Courtiers to doe the like. *Theophanes* and *Theosterictus* in *Nicet.*

Anno Domini 751.

An. Dom. 751.

AT this time the Empire was much afflicted, because the *Barbarians* in this Emperors time possessed all the East: Whereupon the *Romans* being much distressed, tyred, and worne out of heart with continuall warres, were resolved to put themselves in the power and protection of the *French*.

Where-

Wherefore *Leo* intended to march with an Army into *Syria*; but perceiving the enemies strength to bee great, he retyred with great feare, and in liew of recovering the Provinces lost from the Empire, he betooke himselfe to lust and idlenesse, inventing every day new fashions of apparell, in the richest manner possible to adorne himselfe: but above all, he greatly was taken with Jewels, of which hee made himselfe a Diadem, especially with those which were taken out of the Church of *S. Sophia*, and wearing it continually, through the weight of it hee dyed with an extreame paine in his head at *Constantinople*, leaving his wife *Irene* to governe the Empire, together with his sonne, and was inhum'd there.

One thing that was remarkeable in the time of his Regency, was, that in the second yeere of his reigne; and *Theophanes.*

in the Summer time, betweene the *Cyclades Iſles*, *Thera*, and *Therasia*, there appeared out of the Sea a vapour to boyle like the ſmoake of a chimney for the ſpace of many daies, which by little and little growing thicke and large, broke out into into a flame: afterwards it caſt out whole rocks of Pumice, and tranſported great heapes of them all over the leſſer *Aſia*, *Lesbos*, and *Abydus*, and all the maritime parts of *Macedonia* in ſuch ſort, that the whole ſuperfice of the Sea was covered with them: and in the middeſt of ſo great a fire a new Iſle grew ſuddainly up by the heaping of the earth together, and joyned it ſelfe to that Iſle, which is now called *Sacra*.

III. Constantine 6.

Anno Dom. 775.

AFter the death of *Leo*, *Constantine* his sonne, whose place of birth is not probably nominated, tooke upon him the Imperiall government. His Mother *Irene*, with whom hee ruled ten yeeres, was a cause that a Councell of thirty and three Bishops was held, in which many profitable lawes were made, tending to the general cõmo- *Anno. Dom. 775.*

dity and benefit. Afterwards his mother perceiving that he would not be correspondent to her expectation and will, being hee abandoned himselfe to debauches and lasciviousnesse, there grew a dissention betweene them, so that hee deprived her of all government, and himselfe governed absolute five yeeres. He was a most cruell man: for he caused the eyes of many noble Citizens to be pulled out, under pretence of their conspiracy and treason against him. The people seeing this, they recalled the Empresse *Irene*, and taking *Constantine* they imprisoned him, and in revenge they likewise plucked out his eyes, and so in that extreame misery he concluded his fate, the place of his death or interment being obscured.

In the yeere 780, in this Emperors regency, a certaine man digging in a wall of *Thracia*, found a stone coffin,

sin, wherein there lay the body of a man, and Letters fastned to the coffin in brasse, which made these words, *Christus nascetur ex Virgine Maria: Credo in eum: sub Constantino & Irene Imp. 2. Lot iterum me videbit.* *Theophanes* and all other *Greeke* and *Latine* Historians constantly affirme, *Anno* 793. *Mens. Decemb.* the River *Tyber* overflowed the City to the highth of twice a mans depth, so that they were inforced to helpe and relieve one another by little skiffes and tubs. *Anno* 797. *Theoph.* writes also, that for the space of ten dayes the Sunne was darkned, that ships on the Sea could not steere a right course, and that many perished by this strange accident, being a thing against, and beyond nature.

Carolus Magnus.

Anno Domini 801.

An. Domini 801.

O the name of *Magnus* the greatnesse of this *Carolus* was every way correspondent, who was a man really vertuous, liberall, generous, and on Armes admirable, being by nation a *French-man*. After the death of his father *Pipinus*, hee remained coinheritor with his brother *Carolus* of the Crowne of *France*, but after the space of

two

two yeares hee remained absolute in the rule and government, in which he tooke in *Aquitaine*: Hee overthrew *Desiderius* King of the *Longobards*, and restored againe to the Church whatsoever *Desiderius* above mentioned had taken away, and thereupon the Empire was put upon him, by the generall Councell, and the Popes, and crowned with great solemnity and triumph. Returning into *France* hee overcame the *Saxons*, conquered *Spaine*, hee subdued the *Gascognes*, *Britans*, and many other powerfull Princes, whereby he got such fame, that from all parts of the world Embassadors came with rich Presents, beseeching his gracious favour. At length falling into a feaver, but as some say, of a Pluriſie, and other inward paines of his bowels, he dyed at *Aquisgrane*, to the inestimable griefe of the Universe, and was buried very honorably neere the

Capitoll.

Capitoll. Should I here undertake to relate his worth, my unworthinesse would come farre short: wherefore for more satisfaction, I refere you to *Spondanus*, and other Authors.

113. *Ludovicus Pius*: or *Lewis the godly.*

Anno Domini 814.

Anno Domini 814.

HE Emperor *Lewis*, borne in *France*, succeeds the good *Charlemaigne*, and made

upon the rebellious *Gasceignes*, and submitted them to the Empire. He curbed the boldnesse of the *Britaines* and English-men: and having well conformed the Empire, he called a Councell at *Aquisgrane*, at which hee admitted his eldest sonne *Lotharius* as Co-emperor, and made *Pipin* his second sonne, King of *Aquitany*, and *Lewis* his third son King of *Bavaria*. But not long after, because hee preferred *Lewis* his youngest sonne before the other, there grew a great enmity, dissention, and hatred amongst them, insomuch that they tooke *Lewis* their Father, and deprived him of the Empire, most unjustly imprisoning him: from whence they afterwards repenting their so grosse and unnaturall errour, enlarged him, and restored him again with great reconciliations to his former possession.

This *Lewis* was a man wonderous clement

clement and merciſull, and alway
a defender of the Church and Em
pire. Laſtly, he yeelded to fate, a
dyed neere *Moguntum*, and w
buried in the Church of *St. Arnolp*
where his urne is ſtill to be ſeene.
Cedrenus and the Annals of *Fran*
teſtifie, that *Anno* 823, ſundry an
frequent prodigies were both ſeen
and heard by Earthquakes & ſtrang
Lightnings, by fires falling fro
Heaven, raine of ſtone, peſtilenti
all mortality of men and beaſts: an
it was eſteemed as a prodigy alſo
that a young Girle about 12 yeere
of age, lived for the ſpace of a whol
yeere without any food at all.

Baron.

114. Lotharius.

Anno Domini 823.

Otharius likewise borne in *France*, succeeds his Father. *Anno Domini* 823.

He made warre against his brothers, and being by them overthrowne, he fled to *Aquisgrane*, and even there not resting in safety, hee was enforced with his wife and children to goe to *Vienna*: where he also was pursued by his enemies, insomuch that he only escaped. *Sergius* the

the Pope perceiving this, and being moved to compassion towards him and the Empire, sent Embassadors to reconcile them. Whereupon it was concluded, that this *Lotharius* should have the government of *Italy*, and a part of *France* called *Romania* with the title of Emperour. Finally, finding himselfe aged, and willing to disburthen himselfe, he resigned the Empire to his eldest sonne *Lewis* to succeed after his decease, and hee taking the habit of a Monke upon him, in a short time departed this life in a Monastery, and was solemnly inhumed at *Prunie*.

Anastasius affirmeth, that An. 847. there was a Basilisk or Cockatrice in the City of *Rome*, bred in a vault that by his breath and aspect, or sight slew all that saw him, or came neere the place where he was, though *Plinie lib. 8. cap. 21.* will have it, that those Animals breed but in one

one place, which he calleth *Cyrenaica*, in dry places, and not in moist: But when God intends to punish the sinnes of man, all creatures whatsoever obey him, so that they breed when and where his divine will is.

Anno Domini 855.

Otharius having retired him to a monasticall life, his son *Lewis* also by birth a *French-*

Anno Domini 855.

man,

man, grew arrogant, and himselfe came neere unto the City of Rome with a great and potent Army, and to dominere the more, he committed outrages, rapines, and murthers. The people of Rome seeing this, they besought the Citizens and Aldermen to goe to meete him without the City-gates, and to entertaine him with all submission. Which being done, hee was pacified, and immediately hee went to visite Pope Sergius, who granted him in his departure from Rome many priviledges, and solemnly crowned him Emperor. After that, he went to Pavia, and became very much devoted to the Roman Church. He was much molested with his sonne Charles, who with his many plots of treason, sought the death of his father: for which cause many Lords were put to death in Gallia Cisalpina upon suspition. And having well composed all things

concerning

concerning the Empire, he died in *Milan*, having governed 21 yeares, was buried in great pompe after the *Romane* manner in *Milan* aforesaid. *Matheus Westm.* writeth that *Anno Dom.* 870. the *Danes* comming into *England*, wasted & spoiled the country, committing all manner of outrages, as ravishing women and maids of all sorts and qualities: amongst the rest *Ebba* the Abbesse of *Collingham* Abby hearing of their cōming, called all her Nuns together, and with a razor cut off her owne nose, and upper-lip, perswading the rest so to do, rather then to be abused by the *Danes*, which they instantly did. The *Danes* comming thither, and seeing such a strange spectacle of martir'd faces; in a rage palpably perceiving themselves deluded, set fire on the Monastery, & burnt them every mothers child. They likewise took king *Edmund*, and binding him to a tree,

whipped him a long time with cords knotted in a most grievous manner, afterwards shot him full of arrowes, & lastly cut off his head: This hapned in this Emperors time although nothing touching him, yet for the satisfaction of some, I inserted as a thing worthy of memory. *Spon.* in *Lodovico.*

116. *Charles 2. surnamed Calvus.*

An. Dom. 876

CHarles the brother to the foresaid *Lewis* beganne his reigne in the yeare of grace 876.

876. *Charles* the third being called and crowned Emperour *Augustus*, & this being perceived by the sonnes of *Lewis*, they took it as an indignity not sufferable; and suddenly with all expedition they levied a great army, and came into *Italy* with an absolute intent of depriving him both of Empire and life. Now *Charles* gives order for his defence, and fortifies *Verona* with great and inpregnable fortifications and strength, by all possible industrie, there to prohibite and stoppe the passages of the enemies forces neare the City of *Trent*. But befell sicke in *Mantua*, and by an inpoysicated medicine administred unto him by *Zedechias* his Phisician a *Iew*, he suddenly dyed at *Mantua*. This *Charles* was a very good christian, and very devout he built many churches and monasteries in divers parts of the world, & enlarged the service of God, to his best possibility and po-

wer. And with all due funebrial rites, was interred at St. *Denis* his Church neere *Paris*, where he lies in expectation of a glorious resurrection.

117 *Charles* 3. *Crassus.*

Anno Domini 879.

His *Charles* borne in *Fran* was surnamed the grosse, h was king of *Germany* & *Fra* He was a good Christian, and a very good disposition, a greate my to malefactors, and very seve in punishing such as transgressed lawes. He was crowned by Po

Iohn & pronounced *Augustus*. After ten yeares he made war against the *Ormans*, and subjected them in such sort, that *Rodisridus* their king, demanded peace with all submission, promising moreover that he would become a christian, with all his court & followers: to which demand *Charles* easily and willingly condescendes, to his great content and satisfaction. And the more to confirme his love, he was *Rodisridus* his Godfather in baptisme. After many tedious and troublesome wars, he became much impoverished, and was destitute and forsaken of all his nobility and Peeres, and deprived of the Empire. And being thus abandoned he died miserably, and with smal and no honor he was enterred in a poore sepulchre.

1187 *Arnulfus.*

Anno. Dom. 887

Anno Domini 887

ARnulfus being nephew to *Charls* and king of *Frãce*, in which country he was born, took upon him the Empire, wherin he governed 12. yeares. *Formosus* being called to the aide of the Pope came into *Italy*, and being entred into *Bergame*, he slew *Ambrose* Count of the city. And being come to

So called the beautifull.

Rome,

Rome, he restored the Pope to his former dignity with great solemnity, and concurse of people of most remote nations. After that the *Pope* crowned him with great pomp and triumph, and by the reason of the infinite number of the people he was enforced to retire into *France*. He fought with the *Moguntins* and overcame them. He subdued the *Ormanns* which were now rebelled and fallen from the Empire. But at length finding all peaceable and quiet, he gave himself over to his pleasure and lust, and became so insolent and proud, that at last he fell from the Church, and rebelled: whereupon peradventure through the diviue iustice he fell into a long an incurable infirmity, whereof he miserably concluded his daies at *Ratisbona*, and was entombed at *Hotings*.

119. Lewis 3.

An. Domini 901.

AFter the death of the Antecedent Emperour, by the election of the *Swizzers* and the *French*, his sonne succeeds, in the yeere 901, who was also by Nation a *French man*. About this time the *Hungarians* made cruell incursions into the confines of *Christendome*, and demolished all the Churches in those parts i' a most malicious contempt and inhumane indignities. To whose violence this just, benigne, and

and excellent Prince being wonderfully desirous to resist and oppose, he sent an Army against them, who at the first encounter were routed and overthrowne. Afterwards challenging his Fathers Kingdome of *Berengarius*, in a battaile overthrew him with marveilous industry and courage: But the battaile againe renewed afresh, this *Lewis* was worsted and taken, and imprisoned at *Verona* to the losse both of his eyes and Imperiall dignity. Lastly, being enlarged, he retyred himselfe into *Germany* as a private man, overloaden with disgrace, and overborne with griefe he surrendered his last breath, and had sepulture at *Ratisbone*.

120. *Contra-*

320. Conradus.

Anno Domini 912.

His Conradus borne in Franconia was a man so great, powerfull, and generous, that he was created Augustus. In the beginning of his government he found many Countries adverse: but afterwards with a strong confidence of his curteous clemency, and mercy of this singular Prince, they voluntarily came in, and submitted without any molestation or mulct. Nevertheless in the third

yeare

yeare of his Empire, the *Hungarians* entred into *Germany* and sacked *Bavaria* with many other opulent and rich Countries. Against whome this *Monarch* advancing, to the honour of the Empire he vanquished and crushed them. And having performed many notable enterprises, knowing himselfe to be neere his end, assembling may *Almain* Lords, he exhorted them to live well, and to a fealty towards the *Roman-Church*, intreateing them to create *Henry* the son of *Otho* Emperour; which he having obtained; he laid downe the Imperiall scepter, and after the seventh yeare of his reigne, he departed to another life dying in *Germany* being with due obsequies entombed at *Fulda*.

121. *Henry*

121. *Henry* 1. *surnamed* Auceps.*

* The Fowler or Falconer wherewith he was much delighted.

Anno Domini 919.

BY the perswasion of *Conradus* this *Henry* a *Saxon* borne, was created Emperour, who was a man abundantly replenished with singular graces, and sublime gifts above all men of his time, and hee became a Monarch so famous, that he was beloved, honoured, and reverenced of every man. And although many Dukes and Princes rebelled against him, he neverthelesse with his admirable

rable prudence pacified them all. He suppressed the *Saxons* to his great honour and reputation, and recovered a world of treasures and wealth from them. Hee subdued many other Provinces and Cities with little or no difficulty, but rather by his discreete meekenesse and gentle clemency, wherefore hee eternized his name to memory. Afterward being surprized with a grievous infirmity, (as some write) a dead Palsie, leaving all quiet, he left his sonne *Otho* Emperour, to whom hee recommended true and incorruptible Justice in his government; and by little and little hee yeelded unto death at the age of 60 yeeres, and 17 of his government, being with great solemnity and pompe befitting so worthy a man, inhumed at *Quendelburg*.

122. *Otho*

Anno Domini 936

THis was the first *German* Emperour, being by birth a *Saxon*, and crowned by Pope *Leo*. He was a marveilous Christian-like man, a defender and lover of the Church. Hee overcame *Boleslaus* King of *Bohemia*, and *Hugo* Count of *Paris*. Hee subdued the *Hungarians*, and after so many victories and trophes, perswaded by some Cardinalls against the iniquity

of

of Pope *Iohn*, being moved with a godly zeale, he came into *Italy* with a mighty Army, and tooke *Berengarius* with his ſonne, and confined one of them into *Gracia*, and the other into *Germany*. And being come *Rome*, hee deturbed the aforeſaid Pope from the ſeate, and by the inſtigation of the people he made *Leo* Pope. And for the commodity and good univerſall hee determined and arbitrated many litigious diſſentions. In the end finding himſelfe very aged, he elected for his Companion in the Imperiall dignity his owne ſonne *Otho*: and returning into *Germany* his native Country, hee dyed at *Hienald*, as others write, at *Quendelbourgh*, having reigned 12 yeeres in the Imperiall Majeſty; and lyeth interred at *Magdeburg*.

123. Otho 2.

Anno. Dom. 968.

His *Otho*, by Nation a *German*, tooke the Imperiall Scepter in hand, and following his Fathers steps hee was most Christian-like, and an excellent propugnator of the Church. In *Germany* he tooke *Henry* Duke of *Bavaria*, and with his owne hands Emperour-like he dispossessed him of that *Signory*. Hee fought against *Lotharius* King of *France*, and overcame him

who

who had ſpoiled and waſted many countries. He ſubdued *Dalmatia* with great valour to his perpetual honour. But afterwards fighting againſt the *Greeks*, he was routed in ſuch ſort, that he loſt his whole army, and himſelfe fled being diſguiſed, and by ſea was tranſported into *Sicilia*: where being diſcovered, he ranſomed himſelfe, by infinite ſumms of moneys. And being enlarged, of the *Sicilians* he was wonderfully reverenced and honoured by them, they themſelves attending and conducting him to *Rome* with exceeding great honor, where ſhortly after he died, leaving his ſon *Otho* to ſucceed, himſelfe having governed 17 yeares, and lieth alſo entombed in *Rome*.

Anno Domini 983.

The the third tooke possession of the Empire with great difficulty, because there was a great confusion about him, and *Henry* Duke of *Bavaria*; but afterwards the Electors all accorded to *Otho*, and this their election was confirmed by Pope *Benedict* of those times. He was not any way different from the conditions of his predecessors: for he was a great defender of the

the Church. And in all his warres (which were many) he remained invincibly victorious, having alwayes a brave spirit, wherefore he was called *the wonder of the world*. Finding all in quiet and peace he intended to go into *Italy*, which he did, and came to *Rome*, and was crowned by *Gregory* the fifth with wonderfull solemnity: and being very desirous to returne into *Germany*, he was poisoned by the *Romanes*, and died suddenly in *Rome*, the eighteenth yeare of his Empire, committing his body to his sons to be conducted solemnly into *Germany*, there to be interred at *Aquisgrane*, and his ashes to be inurn'd, after the *Romane* fashion. *This Emperour married Mary the daughter of the king of Arragon, which Mary often enticed a young Earle (a man of a singular chastity, as being himselfe also married) to the satisfaction of her lust; but being by him repulsed, she com-*

plained to Otho, *that the Earle had forced her to his desire: Wherefore* Otho *commanded him to be beheaded. The Earles Lady taking up the head of her husband, came and threw it before* Otho *as he was at that time in the seate of Iudgement, with many teares and word, charging him, that hee was guilty of innocent blood, which shee proved by taking (before his face and the rest of his company) a red hot Iron in her hand, which never hurt her: Otho seeing that, and the Lady thereupon insulting, promised her his owne life in satisfaction: But the Peeres after much intreaty somewhat pacified the Lady, and the matter being more seriously sifted, the whole crime fell upon the Empresse, whom* Otho *commanded to bee burnt, and gave the Widdow 3 Castles, to her and her children for ever.* Barro.

custome it
as among
e *Romans*,
at whoso-
r did take a
d hot Iron
his hand,
d was not
rt, was held
nocent of
at act wher-
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sed.

This Emperour also appointed divers Offices in the Empire, as

Chancellor, Dapifer, Pincerna, and the like; adding those places as honorable to those Earles and Counts, upon whom hee conferred them, thenceforth to be irremoveable for ever.

125. *Henry* 2.

Henry the second borne in *Bavaria*, was by the Electors created Emperor in the yeere of Grace 1001, being at first Duke of *Bavaria*. Hee was an excellent and Saint-like man, and had a Lady

Anno Domini 1001.

to his wife, worthy and like himselfe, adorned with all compleat perfections. This man by the reason of serious occupations, concerning the Imperiall affaires, could not for a certaine space come into *Italy*: but dispatching his businesses of greatest importance, he came to *Rome*, not in a pompous manner, but with a convenient and due greatnesse, and was by *Benedict* 8 then *Pope* crowned Emperour. Afterwards he went toward *Capua*, against the *Saxons*, and staied them out of *Italy*, together with many *Greeks* which favoured the *Turks*. At length having well composed the Empire, and founded the bishoprick of *Bamberge*, he matched his sister in marriage to *Stephen* king of *Hungary*: afterwards falling sick, in a short time died; I finde it not recorded where, to the great greife of all men, and lieth enterred at *Bamberg* before mentioned.

126. *Conradus* 2.

NOt without great contention two yeeres after the death of *Henry* this noble and sublime Prince borne in *Franconia*, was lawfully chosen Emperour, who immediately made warre upon *Elibrand* Duke of *Milan*, and besieged him; although out of his owne clemency and noble minde, and by the intreaty of the Arch-bishop of *Colonia* he raised his siege. Departing thence hee went to *Rome*, and by *Anno Domini* 1024.

Pope *Iohn* was crowned Emperour with great ſolemnity and triumph. After ſome dayes departing from *Rome*, he warred againſt the *Sclavonians*, and bravely overcame them. He ordayned many moſt commodious and profitable lawes, amongſt which this was one, *That what Prince ſoever violated the peace, he ſhould loſe his head.* It is not found, nor certainly knowne when, how, nor where this moſt Chriſtian Emperour dyed: Nevertheleſſe it is credibly to be ſuppoſed that a good end concluded ſo good beginnings, and ſo vertuous a life; but had interment at *Spires.*

Glaber amongſt other Authors reporteth, that on the Feaſt of Saint Peter *and* Saint Paul, *the* 29 *of* June, Anno Domini 1033, *at ſixe of the clocke in the morning the Sunne began to be eclipſed, and continued untill eight in a very ſtrange manner;*

the Sunne seeming to bee of the colour of a Saphire, being in the upper part like the Moone in the last Quartile: and the countenances of men seemed of the colours of the dead, pale, and wanne; and whatsoever was in the Ayre, seemed of a yellow or Saffron colour, to the terrour of all men: so that the greatest Philosophers and learnedst of those times could not give any other reason, but that it portended mortality; and demonstrated a power incomprehensible by humane nature and reason.

127. Henry

127. Henry 3.

Anno Domini 1039.

AFter the good *Conradus*, *Henry* his sonne borne also in *Franconia*, succeeded in the Empire: In the beginning of his Reigne hee fought very fortunately against *Hurdericus* King of *Bohemia*, and made him tributary, so that he never after disturbed him. He overthrew the *Hungarians*, and restored *Solon* to his Kingdome, of which hee had beene deprived by *Ladislaus*.

About

bout this time there grew many
iſſenſions in *Rome* amongſt the Pre-
tes concerning the *Popedome*, and
e with ſingular prudence laboured
o pacifie them, and cauſed a Coun-
ell to be called, in which *Clemens*
he ſecond was elected as true Pope,
nd by him was crowned Emperor.
fterwards hee made warres upon
he *Sarazens*.

Returning into *Germany*, he built a
ately and ſumptuous Church in
amberge, dedicating it to *St. Gre-*
ory, and obtained it to be a Cathe-
rall, with an obligation of ſending
certaine quantity of Incenſe to the
ope, and a white Horſe with due
urniture.

Bertholdus reports this, *That* Hen-
y beginning to loath and hate his wife,
ho was a moſt innocent and vertuous
oman, committed her to priſon,
here he compelled many to violate and
rce her: he commanded his ſecond

ſonne

ſonne Conradus to doe the like which he refuſing, being his ſtep-mo ther, this Henry denied him to b his ſonne; and after ſome other in ward infirmitie beſides his Apoplexy as peradventure iealouſie, which man times breeds from a meer, but falſe ſuſ pition, and cauſeth perpetuall diſſenti on, and debates, which by continuance, altereth the nature of love, converting it to a loathing and hatred, oftentimes to the ruine of one or both parties. He died in Aquiſgrane, leaving his ſonne Henry to inherit the crown imperiall, and had his funerall obſe quies performed in a moſt royall and glorious forme, and thus buried at Spires.

128. Henry

128. *Henry* 4.

FOr the memorable goodnes of the father, *Henry* the ſon, the place of his birth being ot knowne, was elected Emperour, lthough he were very young, who the beginning ſhewed himſelfe ery forward to good, and a great e- emy to vice. He afterwards became roud and inſolent, and a contemner religion, ſo that he became cru- l, whereupon ſundry Popes roclaimed him heretique. But recanting *An. Dom.* 1056.

recanting at length his errors, he wa
received into the bosome of th
Church. Not long after being a
Pavia, he againe fell from the faith
and laboured to deprive Pope *Grego-*
ry of his seate. But the *Germans* per-
ceiving him in such a variable incon-
stancy and malice, deprived him o
the Empire, in whose place they
chose *Rudolphus* Duke of *Saxony*.
Whereupon this *Henry* with great
indignation put many both of the
Clergy and layty to death, and crea-
ted a new Pope in his owne Coun-
try. In the meane time this *Rudol-*
phus the new Emperour gathered a
great Army, and overthrew *Henry*
and all his adherents: and thus he
dyed, leaving an ill savour behind
him, and was buried at *Spire*.

129. *Henry* 5.

Henry, sonne to the former Emperor, whose place of birth is not mentioned, by the Divine will having pacified the Empire, hee came with a powerfull Army into *Italy*, and to *Rome*, under pretence of peace, and by a wile tooke the Pope *Paschalis* with all the Clergy, and deprived them of their faculties. Whereupon the people of *Rome* slew an infinite number of the *Germans*, *An. Dom.* 1106.

Germans and chased them out of *Rome*, comming another time to *Rome*, he was crowned by one *Mauritius* a bishop of his owne making. *Paschalis* being dead he was excommunicated by *Calistus*: Returning to himselfe, with great hmiliation he renounced his former proceedings resigning himselfe into the hands of the *Pope*; and promising thence forth to be a faithfull man. Wherefore the *Pope* moved to compassion, absolved him, and restored him to his former dignity. Being returned into *Germany*, he shortly after surrendred his life at *Traiectum* in *Germany*, and lies buried also at *Spires*.

130. *Lotharius*

130. Lotharius.

Anno Dom. 1125.

AFter the death of *Henry*, the Emperour *Lotharius* was choſen by the Electors, he then being Duke of *Saxony*, a man of excellent parts, and moſt prudent in in all his actions, religious and a lover of true iuſtice. He replaced *Innocencius* the third, & reſtored him to the ſeate, by whom he was with many previledges and great ſolemnities crowned Emperour of *Germany*: Re-

Returning into his Countrey with great Majesty and State: he proclaimed warres against the *Bohemians*, and with singular valour in a short time hee suppressed their impudent boldnesse. After that hee pacified many dissentions of great importance in *Italy*, and of great consequence concerning the *Romans*. He chased *Rogero* Duke of *Calabria* and *Puglia* out of those parts, which he contrary to all Justice most unlawfully usurped, & he relieved many that were oppressed and distressed. In the end having compo'ed all in quiet, he returned home, where hee peaceably resigned his life, and dyed at *Verona*, having governed eleaven yeeres; and lyes buried in *Saxony*.

An. Dom. 1124, the order of the Knight Templers was instituted by this Emperour, and the charge likewise defrauded: Their habits were white

white, and for the space of nine yeers here were no more but nine of them; but shortly after their number grew infinite. *Tyrius lib. 12. cap. 7.*

131. Conradus.

Conradus borne in *Sweden*, was Duke of *Bavaria*, and Nephew to *Henry the fifth*, and was elected *Cesar* by the entire consent of the Electors. For his clemency and piety hee was greatly beloved of Saint *Bernard*, which was an occasion that hee with many *Anno Domini* 1139.

other Christian Princes went very
powerfully against the *Turkes*, and
making a stay in *Iconium* or *Grecia*
Emanuel the Emperor of the *Greeks*
promised him necessary victualling
for his Army : But the wicked ma
shewed his *Grecian* malice, and
mixed the meale which was for the
bread of the Christian Army with
some pernicious mixture, as chalke
grownd into flower, by the which
treason and villany most perfidious,
an infinite number of the Army dy-
ed, and miserably perished ; inso-
much that such a mortality dayly
increasing worse, and more vehe-
ment, the good *Conradus* was en-
forced to surcease his resolution
and impresse, and to march into
Thracia : And before his Coronati-
on having done many notable, no-
ble, and famous acts, hee passed to
better life, and dyed at *Bamb*
and had his interment at *Lorchium*

Anno Domini 1150, a certaine great man called *Hugo*, built a Caſtle neare the houſe of *Cluni*, but being intreated to deſiſt, hee with a contempt rejected the requeſt; but ſixe yeeres after the ſaid Caſtle by an Earthquake (the Earth gaping under it) was ſwallowed up, and that place being filled with water, became an abyſſive Lake.

132. *Fredericus Barbaroſſa.*

BY a ſurname this Emperour was called *Barbaroſſa*, because he had a red Beard: he *Anno Domini* 1152.

was borne in *Swede*, and his brother *Conradus* being dead, he was elected. He came into *Italy* with an invincible army, and be eaguerd *Tortona*, and sacked it, he was by the Pope at *Rome* crowned Emperour of the *Germans*. Returning thence to his owne country he atchieved many memorable and worthy acts. But afterwards upon some indignity conceived against the Pope, he came againe, with a great army before the walls of *Rome*, and the citizens having man'd the walls for their safeguard & defence, it hapned that some souldiers of the Imperiall army found a Hare, and with a great shout and outcry, which they usually made at their first onset in warre, coursed her, which ranne directly towards the citty, the souldiers pursuing her. The citty souldiers supposing them to make an assault through feare forsooke their station and retreated from the walls: Which

the Emperour perceiving, presently led on his army, and scaling the walls tooke in the Citty, and sacked and fired.

And by the reason he fostered such a *Schisme*, he was excommunicated; whereupon he in a rage tooke many things from the Church. He persecuted Pope *Alexander* the third, of the house of *Bandinelli Senese*, taking part with the Anti-popes, and especially with *Iudas Cremascus*. Making warre against the *Venetians*, he was by them overthrowne, his sonne taken, and himselfe as it were utterly affoibled. He with great submission, by the meanes of the said *Venetians* was reconciled. He fought valiantly against the *Turkes*, and gained many notable victories. He conquered *Armenia*, and in that country swimming his horse over a river, was drowned, & afterwards was taken up, and his funeral riteswere performed at *Tyre*.

There hapned in the yeare 1169. on the fourth day of February such a vehement earth-quake in the whole Isle of Sicily, moving the whole Island that it was perceived in Calabria, and the stately and wealthy City of Catana was so utterly shattered, that there was not one house left standing, and there were above fifteene thousand men and women with their children, oppressed with the ruine thereof, which was an accident to be deplored and lamented all over the Christian world as an exemplar punition, by the All-powerfull hand of the God omnipotent.

Bert

1133. Henry

133. *Henry the 6.*

Henry the ſonne of the aforeſaid *Ferderick* borne alſo in *Swede* after his election went to *Rome* in great magnifiſcence and triumph, & was there crowned Emperor by Pope *Celeſtinus*. He fought with *Tancredus*, and beleaguered him in *Naples*, tooke in the citty, and the ſaid *Tancredus* was ſlaine by the ſouldiers, and his ſonne *William* with his two ſiſters were carried away *An. Dom.* 1190.

away priſoners into *Germany* to the Emperour, who was already removed for feare of a ſuſpected plague. But they together with a great number of Biſhops and Prelates were moſt cruelly murthered: For which outragious cruelties Pope *Celeſtine* excommunicated him: although afterwards upon great ſubmiſſive humiliation hee was againe reſtored and abſolved, and was made by him King of *Sicily*. Afterwards falling grievouſly ſicke in *Meſania*, and having recommended his brother *Philip* and his owne ſonne *Frederick* to Pope *Innocent*, hee gave up the ghoſt in *Panorma*, and after the *Roman* cuſtome was richly entombed there.

In this Emperours time lived one *Hugo* Biſhop of *Lincolne*, who in his Viſitation comming to the Abby of *Godſtoe*, and entring into the Church to doe his devotion, and beholding

beholding a new Hearse covered with funerall ornaments very richly adorned, asked whose it was, answer was made of *Rosamunds*; hee presently commanded it to be taken thence, and the corpse to be buried, not in the Church, because shee was an unchaste woman.

134. *Philip.*

Great dissention did arise amongst the Electors upon the death of *Henry* the sixt, because

Anno. Dom. 1199.

becauſe ſome ſtood for this *Philip* Duke of *Swede*, and brother to the late Emperor: an other ſome ſtood for *Otho* Duke of *Saxony*, who was Grandchilde to *Lotharius* Emperor. Whereupon Pope *Innocentius* (in conſideration that *Fredericke* and *Henry*, the anceſtors of this *Philip*, had beene rebelious to the Church) declared *Otho* to bee the right and true Emperor: Wherefore *Philip* being much diſtaſted, by the aſſiſtance of *Philip* King of *France*, hee made warre againſt *Otho*. In the meane while *Innocentius* excommunicated *Philip*, together with all his adherents, which either ſavoured or aſſiſted him. Afterwards there followed a pacification, on condition that *Philip* was declared Emperor of *Germany*, but hee governed with great perplexity and moleſtations: Within a while after he was murthered at *Bamberg* by *Altgra-*

nus Prince of *Turigia*, and by that meanes there ensued a generall peace and quite: He was conveighed to *Spire*, and had a stately funerall celebrated for him, with a monument there.

135. *Otho*

IN the yeare 1199, *Otho* borne a *Saxon*, and Duke of *Saxony* was elected Emperor: And having taken an oath not to violate the Church, who not *Anno Domini* 1199.

not long after his coronation by Pope *Innocentius*, he violated his oath, by ransacking many churches, for he was a man more covetous than religious: and immediatly after, he beganne to warre against the *Romans*, by whom he was chased out of *Rome*, and overthrowne: but being more enraged, he opposed himselfe against the Pope, and against *Fredericke*, sonne of the late Emperor, from whom hee tooke with little or no resistance, many lands and places: Which *Innocentius* understanding, called a Councell in *Rome*, and deposed him of the Empire, and by the assistance of many Princes against him, in the behalfe of the Pope, hee had such a great overthrow, that he lost all his men. Whereupon the Electors accorded to elect *Frederick* King of *Sicilia* Emperor. For he returned againe into *Germany*, there to make all possible preparations for

the

the defence of his Crowne and dignity. And having mustred up all his power and strength, pitched a battaile against *Fredericke*, wherein he lost the day, together with his life; being wounded in thirty severall places in his body; and was interred at *Brunswicke*.

136. *Fredericke the 2.*

Tho being deprived of the Empire, *Fredericke* (a *Saxon* borne) was elected, who was

Anno Domini 1220.

was crowned by *Honorius* Pope, by whose assistance he was restored to the kingdome of *Sicily* although that favour was very ill requited, because he suddenly made open wars sacking, wasting, and spoiling many places that did belong to the Church, wherefore he was excommunicated and deprived of the Empire: but he slighting and contemning all the Popes censures, became far more cruell against the Church, and the more to injure the Pope, upon no occasion he slew many Prelates. Afterwards the *Parthians*, *Guelfs*, and *Gibellines* overcomming the countrey of *Italy*, upon this oacasion, many citties were wasted, sacked, spoiled and razed. After this returning to *Puglia* a violent feaver came upon him, and whilest he intented to recreate and refresh his army, he was then by *Manfred* his bastard sonne strangled

strangled at *Tarento*, and lyes buried at *M. Regalis*.

137. *Henry* 7

THis *Henry* sonne of the aforesaid *Fredericke* and *Constantia* was at ten yeeres of age elected and crowned Emperour in *Aquisgrane*: and being come to age, he married *Margaret* the Daughter of *Leopoldus* Duke of *Austria*. And remembring his father stood excõmunicated by the Pope, and thinking it

Anno Domini 1220.

undeservedly; hee bent himselfe to revenge, and with an infinite number of souldiers arose against him in open warres: but upon better advice, and doubtfull peradventure of the successe, turned his forces against *Otho*: which made his father suspect that he would in time be of sufficient power, (already knowing his boldnesse of courage) and apt to deprive him of the Crowne Imperial; wherupon hee imprisoned him with a strong guard over him, and with a strict charge of custody; in which misery he at length dyed, having no obsequies at all confered upon him.

138. *Rudolphus.*

Rudolphus borne at *Habsburg*, was elected Emperor in *Lions*, in the time that a generall Councell was there holden in the yeare 1273. He was a man of exquisite valour, and most excellent in all matters, very able of body, of a beautifull resemblance, replenished with singular prudence and wisedome. The yeare after his election he went to *Rome*, there to be crowned; and although (as

Anno Domini 1273.

(as some say) the Pope would not condescend or grant him a coronation, nevertheless he obtained the Imperiall governement of *Germany*. *Anno* 1282 an army of *French-men* being in *Sycily* in preparation for *Affrick*, the *Sycilians* upon Easterday in the afternoone which fell at that time upon the 30 of *March*, upon the ringing of the bells to Even-song, set upon the *French* not dreaming of any such matter, especially on Easterday, and slew them every man, woman, and childe, to the number of 8000 persons: and those women which were with childe by the *French*, were bowelled, that not a sprigge might sprout from a *French* stocke: the memory of this is not extinct, for the *French* know *les vespres de la Sycile*: *The Sycilian Even-song*. Genebrard.

Returning backe he moved warre against *Ageſilaus* king of *Bohemia* and

and ſo ſubjected him, that he held him in ſervitude and ſlavery many yeares: but afterwards willing to ſatisfie the world, and expreſſe his magnanimity, he voluntarily reſtored him his kingdome againe, giving his daughter unto him in marriage. And having reduced all matters to a generall peace, he fell ſicke, and dyed at the age of ſeventy three at *Gemersheym*, and was interred at *Spires*.

139. Adolphus.

An. Domini 1292.

AFter the death of the good old man *Adolphus*, Marquesse of *Anassona* borne in *Nassau*, attained to the Imperiall dignity in the yeere of the Incarnation 1292, with the unity of consent of the Electors. This man was also adorned with all the riches of vertue, but very poore in wordly estate, and weake in men of Armes. And although he were not crowned by

by the Pope, nevertheleſſe (peradventure by advice and councell, or at that time indiſcreete, not reflecting that impreſſes of Warre ſhould be performed rather by ſuperiority, (the better to ſecure the victory) than by inconſiderate temerity and raſhneſſe hee) laboured with thoſe ſmall forces which he had, to recover ſome places defected from the Empire. And fighting againſt *Albertus* ſonne of *Rudolphus* now Emperour in the Countrey of *Spire*, although hee behaved himſelfe very valiantly, nevertheleſſe through the ſmall quantity of ſoldiers he was by the ſame *Albertus* overthrowne, and ſlaine neare *Spires*, and lyes buried there.

In this Emperors Reigne, *Anno Domini* 1303, the Chaire wherein the Kings of *England* are crowned at *Weſtminſter*, was brought out of *Scotland* by *Edward* King of *England*,

land, which the Scots called the fatall thaire: in the yeare 1310. The knight-templers in *Germany*, *France*, *England*, and other countries were all cut off, & many of them burnt alive. *Chron. Montford.*

140. *Albertus.*

Anno Domini 1269.

ALbertus, the son of *Rudolphus* late Emperor deceased, borne in *Nassau*, a man most expert in armes, succeeding in the Empire, demanded divers severall times

of

of *Boniface* the Pope his coronation: who being againſt it, and repugnant, would by no meanes condeſcend thereto. Afterwards by the reaſon of jarres and diſcords betweene *Philip* king of *France* and the Pope, he did not onely crowne, and confirme him Emperor, but gave him alſo the kingdome of *France*, ſubjecting the king to his Imperiall government and command: which was an occaſion of infinite ſlaughters, diſcords, inteſtine and civill warres in *Chriſtendome*. This man having ever ſpent and employed the greateſt part of his time in warres and heroicall actions, labouring day and night to recover the ſecure harbour of tranquillity and peace: on a certaine day diſembarking himſelfe, having paſſed over the *Rheine*, he was ſlaine at *Rheinveld* in *Germany* by a nephew of his, for certaine diſſentions between them which before had happened

pened in *Arabia*, and hath his ashes inurn'd at *Kening stadt*.

In this Albertus his time lived that famous Doctor Ioannes Duns Scotus, *who died at* Coloyn, *being supposed to be dead, having onely an accustomed fit, of a* Lethargy, *which afterwards was evident, when they that were his friends came, caused him to be taken up again, having found him to be alive, by many bruises on his face, and his flesh eaten off of his armes and shoulders, and many other signes & tokens to the griefe of many a worthy scholler.*

141. *Henry the 7.*

HIS *Henry* was *Marquesse* of *Luxemburghe* where he was borne, son to *Henry* and *Beatrice*, & elected in the yeare of grace, 1308, and confirmed by Pope *Clement* upon this condition, *that at the end of two yeares he should according to the accustomed manner goe to solemnize his coronation at Rome*, which he performing was entertained with all pompous manner and incredible magni- Anno Dom. 1368.

magnificence by the Citizens and Communalty, and after that was crowned by 3 Cardinals: and there he appeased many dissentions which were then afoote in the Countrey of *Italy*, many parts being taken. His returne was by *Tuscany*, where his soldiers did much mischiefe. Being arrived at *Buonconvento* within 12 miles of *Siena* he fell grievously sicke, and caused himselfe to be carried to the Bath of *Macereto*, and that availing him nothing, he returned againe to *Buonconviento*, where his sicknesse increasing, and the best Art in Phisicke working no good effect within few dayes after hee dyed, and was inhumed at *Pisa*.

142. *Frede-*

1142. Fredericke 3.

The Popes chaire was vacant two yeares, three moneths, and ſeaventeene dayes.

Anno Domini 1314.

HIs *Fredericke* was Duke of *Auſtria*, where hee was alſo borne; the ſonne of *Albertus Cæſar*, and elected to ſucceed in the Imperiall Throne. At the ſame time 2 Emperors were choſen by the Electors, *viz.* this *Frederick* & *Lewis*, and both being crowned, there enſued not onely betweene them, but

but alſo all the world over, moſt cruell and bloody civill warres: And each pretending his cauſe *juridically* lawfull, enabled themſelves to their utmoſt poſſibility, with what forces they could for warre, the better to march whitherſoever occaſion ſhould call upon them. Matters ſtanding upon theſe termes, each of them for his beſt advantage and ſecurity, fortune brought them in proceſſe of time to a meeting, victory hovering over the battaile, which was not without great effuſion of blood on both ſides. But in concluſion the *Cataſtrophe* fell worſt upon *Fredericke* to his utter ruine; ſo he falling into a deepe melancholy, was therein in a ſhort time loſt, paſſing to another life, leaving his enemy *Lewis* to enjoy the ſeate Imperiall: he dyed in *Auſtria*, expecting his reſurrection at *Murbach*.

A Fable of this Emperar Frederick pre-

propounded to the Embassador of King Lewis the 11. in the 6. yeare of his Reigne.

Charles Duke of Burgundy having planted his siege before the City of Nuce, which was succoured by this Emperor, and the Almaines: King Lewis the 11 of France (who sought nothing more than the ruine of the said Duke of Burgundy) sent his Embassador to the Emperor Fredericke, to practise and perswade with him to seize & confiscate into his owne hands all those lands and signorie which the Duke of Burgundy held of the Empire, and that hee for his part would doe the like for the Country of Flanders, Artois, Burgundy, and other dependants of the Crowne of France: The Emperor upon this motion, made the Embassador this answer: Neere unto a certaine City in Almaine, did once haunt a most cruell Beare, which did many mischiefes and dis-

displeasures to the inhabitants adioyning: now (said the Emperour) it hapned that 3 merry companions, (as they were drinking in a Taverne, and having little money to pay their shot) they agreed with their Host to venture upon the Beare, and to kill him, and then make sale of his skinne, and to pay him with the money: and for the performance thereof, they prepared themselves presently to goe and take him: the barguine being made, and dinner ended, they put themselves in quest of the Beare, and approaching to the cave where hee was lodged, the beare issued out upon them so fiercely, that being surprized with a suddaine feare, one of them fled away backe towards the towne; the second saved himselfe by climbing up a tree; and the third being overtaken by the Beare, fell downe under him as dead: and the Beare (without doing him any other hurt) did often put is mouth to the eares

of

of this poore fellow, who all this while held his winde, and abstained from breathing: for the nature of the Beare is not to touch or offend any dead body: Now the beare being gone, the man got up and went his way also: after which, hee that was aloft in the tree, came downe, and having overtaken his companion, demanded of him, what it was that the Beare told him in his eare: marry (quoth the fellow) he bade mee that I should never after use to sell a Beares skinne, till the beare were dead: By this the Emperor payed the Embassador with an answere; as if he should have said; Let us first be sure to take the Duke, and then afterwards let us dispose of his dominions.

143. *Lewis the 5.*

Anno Domini 1329.

AS the more expert in armes this Emperour borne in *Bavaria*, remained sole possessor of the Imperiall scepter, whereupon he elated himselfe with selfe-conceite and pride, causing himselfe to be proclaimed Emperor without any approbation of the Church. In his way towards *Rome* he Imperiously tooke in the Citty of *Milan*. Now was he excõmunicated by the Pope *Iohn*; wherefore he retreated into

into *Germany*, and there made havocke of the Priests and Monkes. Not long after that, he resolved againe for *Rome*, being accompanied with an infinite number of souldiers, and entred the City, where by *Stephanus* he was Crowned, thence returning into *Germany*, where hee found *Charles*, the sonne of *Henry* the 8 was elected Emperor: whereupon they meeting as it were by chance, resolved to trye it out in the field; but *Lewis* finding himselfe inferiour was overthrowne, and by accident saved himselfe by flight; but in a short time after died with griefe; but as some write, his horse threw and slew him, his interment also being uncertaine.

Anno 1316, there was such a generall pestilence and famine all over *Europe*, that the third part of mankinde was swept away, and in *Poland* the sonnes did not abstaine from

eating their parents owne flesh, and also carrion. *Trithem.* a horse artificially painted with St. *George* on his backe upon the wall of the Imperiall palace at *Constantinople*, was heard to neigh by day and by night. Which was likewise heard 137 years before so to do.

Gregor.

Anno Domini 1346. *Charles* K. of *Bohemia*, borne in *Austria*, by the will of pope *Clement* was elected Empe-

rour.

rour. This man because he was a very good Christian and faithfull to the Church; surprized *Nicholas* the usurper a *Tribune* of *Rome*. He deprived *Drathmus* both of life and of the Kingdome of *Naples*: wherefore for his iustice and vertue he was generally beloved and feared of all men. Comming afterwards into *Italy* he was entertained of all Potentates with great honour according to his greatnesse; and according to the custome of his *Antecessors* in *Milan* he received the iron-crowne, and from thence advancing to *Rome* with great triumph and solemnity he was crowned by two *Cardinals*. He ordained many matters concerning the Church for the Empire, and for every man most commodious and usefull, and afterwards he returned into *Germany*. Being growne aged, like a grave and wise man (thinking upon his end) he resigned the

Imperiall ſcepter to *Vinceſlaus* his eldeſt ſon, and altogether quitting himſelfe of the cares of this world, he betook him to thoſe of his ſoule, and in awhile after he dyed in *Behemia*, to the general griefe of all men, having his laſt duties and interment at *Prague*.

The Electors choſe *Edward* the third of *England* for Emperor, but he giving them thankes for ſo great an honour, contenting himſelfe with his little *England*, and *France*, which he had now conquered, refuſed to accept the Empire, by which means it fell upon this *Charles*.

145. *Vinceſlaus*,

345. *Vinceslaus.*

Vinceslaus borne also in *Austria*, falsified that *Proverbe, *Such Parents, such children*: because hee in all his actions was very much unlike his good old Father *Charles* the 4, being in particular, lazy, ignorant, and without all ordinary prudence and discretion; neither did hee any one action worthy, or beseeming a degree of that Majesty and Great-

nes whereunto he was raiſed, in *Germany* hee ſpent his time wholly in idleneſſe, ſloath, and luxury, employing his all ſelfe and cares in new fangled cates, exquiſite rare delicacies of dyet: wherupon the ſpeculative witts of thoſe times abhorred him, and generally all men. Therefore by a commiſſion of *Robert* Duke of *Bavaria* for a new election, he was by the Electors depoſed, and hereupon he conceived ſo great a diſguſt, and fell into ſuch a rage, that he ſickned, and and in the ſpace of 15 dayes or thereabout he paſſed to another life at *Prague*, diſreſpectively there inhumed.

Anno 1397. *Tamerlaine* at firſt a ſhepherd, afterwards became a brave ſouldier, and growing powerfull termed himſelfe *The wrath of God*, tooke *Bajazeth* the great Turk, and carried him about in an iron cage for the ſpace of 4 yeares: at length the Turk beate his

his braines out against the side of the said Cage.

146: *Rupertus.*

Anno Domini 1400.

RUpertus born in the County Palatine of the *Rheine*, Duke of *Bavaria*, and Count Palatine, upon the deposing of *Vinceslaus* was created Emperor in the yeare of grace 1400. who for his goodnes, clemency & iustice was without any conditions voluntarily & freely crowned by Pope

Bo-

Anno 9. Bonif. *Bonifacc.* Hee in the assistance of the *Florentines* marched against *Galeaz.* to Duke of *Milan*, by whom hee was overthrowne, albeit he gave incredible testimonies of his owne valour in the battaile. Hee by this meanes falling into these streights, fled to *Venice* accompanied with some Lords and Nobility, where by the *Doge*, and by the whole Senate hee was most highly and magnificently entertained, encouraged, and comforted; who promised him their assistance, both of moneys and men.

The Cōmander of *Venice.*

From thence he returned into *Germany*, and applyed himself wholly to the government of his Imperiall charge. Afterward leaving ample testimonies of his worth to posterity, he fell into a very grievous infirmity, which deprived him of life at *Oppenheime*, after hee had governed 10 yeeres, and had his last obsequies at *Heydelberg*.

In

In his Reigne a Water-woman or Mermaid was taken in the Lake of *Putmer*, by those of *Embden*, naked and dumbe, which being sent to *Harleim*, was there taught to weare clothes, to spinne, to eate bread, and white meates. *Annals Flem.*

147. *Sigismund.*

HIs *Sigismund*, the sonne of *Charles* 4, and borne in *Austria*, was a man of no lesse goodnesse and gentile qualities than his *Anno. Dom.* 1411.

his late predeceſſor, and his father *Charles* the 4 King of *Bohemia*. Hee being King of *Hungary* at the inſtance of Pope *Iohn* was elected Emperor, and by him crowned. This *Sigiſmund* by his wiſedome and dexterity pacified the *Schiſmes* and diſſentions then in Chriſtendome. In *Bohemia* he extinguiſhed many hereſies: Againſt him roſe up in Armes *Ziska* Captaine of the *Haßites* having often fortunatly fought, and never foyled *Sigiſmund*: as he madly lived, ſo hee likewiſe dyed, perſwading his ſouldiers to to take off his skinne, and make a Drumme head thereof, telling them that at the ſound of that Drumme their enemies ſhould flye.

En. Situ. Cramer.

This *Sigiſmund* had divers warres and conflicts with the *Turkes*, and alwaies came off with honourable victories. This Emperor was a man of his perſon very proper and beautifull,

full, and of a generous spirit, able and strong of body, of an aspect, gracious, wise, and a most beneficent acknowledger of vertuous men, and a great maintainer of the Christian faith: he was a severe chastizer of those that transgressed therin. Being in *Hungary*, and feeling himselfe declining in age, in great tranquillity of heart, surrendred his soule into the hands of heaven, in the 27 yeare of his reigne at *Znaien* in *Moravia*, and with due honour entombed at *Varesin*.

A

1438. *Albert*

148. Albertus.

Anno Domini 1438.

ALbertus Duke of *Austria*, where he was borne, ſonne in law to his Anteceſſor by the conſent of all the Electors was called to the Imperiall dignity, being a magnaminous man, and of a high ſpirit; a juſt, good, and mercifull Prince. In battailes he was bold and forward, and by his valour hee ſubmitted to the Empire *Moravia*, *Bohemia*, and *Poland*. He underſtanding

that

that the *Turkes* molested and assault-
ted many Cities of the Christians
moved with a good zeale, went a-
gainst them with a strong & power-
full army: but in the voyage he fell
sicke, and thought himselfe unfit to
prosecute his intention, or to bring it
to his wished effect: wherefore he re-
turned to *Vienna*, where he found
himselfe in small hopes of recovery,
his disease daily augmenting, made
his last will and testament, and died
neere *Sergenium* in the second yeare
of his government, leaving his Lady
great with childe, and lies buried at
Alba Regalis. Other authors doe af-
firme that he dyed of surfet taken by
eating of Pompions.

149. *Frederick*

149. *Frederick.*

Anno Domini 1440.

Frederick Duke of *Austria*, where also hee drew his first breath, was created *Cæsar* by the *Electors*. Entring into *Italy* he was entertained with great solemnity and state, and with an universall applause of all the people. He solemnized his nuptialls with his Lady in the citty of *Siena* with the greatest triumph and possible magnificence, as it is the ancient custome of that most famous citty

City upon all occurent occasions, to shew themselves very noble in their entertainments. He was afterwards crowned in *Rome*, together with his wife. He fought against the *Turkes*, and obtained many famous and notable victories. Afterwards some dissentions growing betweene him and the King of *Hungaria*, hee was much afflicted, and lost *Vienna* the chiefe Citty of the *German* Empire. And being aged, he retired with infinite trealures into strong holds, and places well fortified; and breathed his last at *Lyntz* in *Austria*, governing alwayes with much trouble, but resteth in peace at *Vienna* aforesaid.

150. *Maximilianus.*

Anno Domini 1493.

Maximilian the sonne of *Fredericke*, by birth an *Austrian*, was created *Cæsar* with a generall consent, and carried himselfe with such a prudent comportment, that hewas held in admiration, feared & reverenced of al the universe: And as he was a man most wise and gracefull, so was hee also in person most perfectly beautifull; and in particular, there shined such a majesty in his countenance, that hee was by all

all men most highly esteemed and honoured. For well ordering an Army in battailes, none of those times could equall him, especially for onslaughts, and taking in of strong Forts. Hee made warres in divers countries, shewing himselfe alwayes of an indaunted courage and heart, and went on, and came off triumphantly. Being at length worne out and quite spent in the tediousnesse of his tiresome warres, hee yeelded his breath where he first drew it, at *Velise* in *Austria*, in the yeere of Grace 1518, the 33 yeere of his government, and 63 of his age, and had solemne and pompous funebriall rites performed him at *Newstadt*.

1511. Charles 5.

An: Domini 1519.

THe most invict Charles the 5. of famous memory, by his father being descended from the ancient Cæsars, and by his mother from the Royall Antiquity of Spaine, but borne in Austria, and for those respects he was by the Electors choſen Emperour. The Graces, singular valour, and all vertues in him contentiously strived to imbellish him, and make him appeare (as he was) a man repleniſhed with all Heroic

roicall qualities. Being at the age of 33 yeeres, hee was crowned in *Bologna* by *Clement* 7. Afterwards he began in his Warres to make the whole world to tremble, and he was of a judgement so elevate and sound, that he never undertooke any enterprize of what difficulty soever which he brought not with prosperity to effect, so that hee were not opposed by stormes, windes, and cruell tempests of weather. Hee matched his sonne *Philip* in marriage, and made him King of *Spaine*, and his other Kingdomes. He resigned his Scepter to *Ferdinand* his brother. Afterwards he retired himselfe in *Spaine* into a religious house, where after he had lived two yeeres, hee resigned his soule into the hands of his Creator, and lies buried in *Spaine*, but I finde not the place certaine.

152. Ferdinand.

Anno Domini 1558.

Ferdinand the brother of Charles, and Sonne of Philip king of Castile, was a man well learned especially in the Latine tongue, and also in armes most expert and active, wherefore it was doubted whether he were of more agility in Chevalry, or more eloquent and fluent in the Latin, Italian, Spanish, High-dutch, Hungarian and Bohemian languages. In the time of his Imperiall government the Counsell

of *Trent* was held, which was so commodious and profitable to the generall good of the world, that it may serve for a certaine rule both of governement of states, and a norme of good life. In which proceedings this Emperor shewed himselfe very forward and a great assistant. Afterwards he sickned in *Vienna*, and finding himselfe neere to his desired end, he called his sonnes, and gave them grave advices and wholesome admonishments, and giving them the blessing of a loving and pious father, he in great peace and tranquility departed at *Vienna*, where he expecteth his resurrection to eternity.

153. *Maximilian* 3.

Anno Domini 1562.

FOr the goodneſſe of the late *Ferdinand*, the Electors thought good to conferre the Empire upon his ſonne *Maximilian*, and ſo to the great ſatisfaction of the *Germans* and *Italians* he was created Emperor: Who nothing degenerating or deviating from the ſteppes and waies of his good Father, comported himſelfe in all his actions with all convenient humane courteſie, dexterity and juſtice towards

wards all men. He was an open enemy to all turbulent men, perfidious or mutinous persons; and with great rigour he quieted and composed many inteſtine and civill wars. Hee was moſt obedient to the Church, and in the defence thereof, he fought againſt the *Turkes* very fortunately: Afterwards falling incurably ſicke of the Retention and ſtopping of his urine, hee left *Rudolphus* his eldeſt ſonne Emperor, himſelfe paſſing to a better life at *Ratiſbon*, about the age of 50, or thereabouts, to the diſcontentment of all Chriſtendome, and lyeth entombed at *Lintz* in *Auſtria*.

1553. *Rudol-*

154. *Rudolphus.*

Anno Dom. 1576.

THe Imperiall Majesty as it were an inheritance of the noble house and family of *Austria*, was after the death of *Maximilian* conferred by the Electors upon his son *Rudolphus* King of *Bohemia* and *Hungary*, who was borne in *Austria*, who also accepting the degree, which deservedly suited with his goodnesse, hee alwayes carrying himselfe in his actions as a pious and just Emperour,

and

and in particular a defender of the *Christian faith*. Hee ordained in his *Diets* excellent & holy lawes. Continually (as it appeares) he laboured to reduce to the bosome of the Church, both by his good example and power in Armes, all those which by their owne deficiency had fallen from it, Hee recovered (what hee could) things usurped by the Imperiall enemies and adversaries to the *Christian Religion*. It pleased Almighty God to grant him alwayes victory, and to heare the prayers of his subjects, and humble honourers of the great worth of this great *Cæsar* in the service of *Christendome*, and the glory of that eternall Majesty, upon which all others doe depend: but the manner of his death and inhumation I read not of.

1555. *Mathias*,

155. *Mathias.*

Anno Domini 1612.

THe Emperor *Rudolphus* had given an intimation for an Imperiall *Diet* in *Francfort*, with a preparation to goe thither for an election of a King of the *Romans*, although he were surprized with ſickneſſe, and deprived thereby both of Empire and life, having reigned 36 yeares. Whereof *Mathias* King of *Bohemia* and *Hungary* having intelligence, he went from *Vienna* to *Prague*, and there

there having solemnized the funerall exequies of his late brother, and leaving good order and directions for the interregne, hee went to the *Diet*, where on the 13 of *Iune*. 1612. he was by the Electors chosen Emperor with a generall applause, and proclaimed, and solemnly sworne in the Church of Saint *Bartholmew*: where also upon the feast of Saint *Iohn Baptist* hee tooke the Iron Crowne, to which solemnity he rod with 10000 horse, by the reason of the concourse of so many Princes, & Lords to so famous a spectacle. The next day he caused his wife to bee crowned Empresse. This *Mathias* the first of that name, was a Prince of a high spirit and a good souldier. He swaid the Empire onely 6 years, 9 moneths, and 7 dayes; and dyed at the age of 63, to the great griefe of all men.

156. Ferdinand 2.

An. Dom. 1619.

THe Emperor *Mathias* being departed from *Prage* to *Vienna* where his brother the Arch-Duke *Maximilia* was. And now there was a preparation for an Electorall *Diet* for the election of the Arch-Duke *Ferdinando de Gratz* to be King of the *Romans*, who was already chosen King of *Bohemia* and *Hungary*: after which departure the Protestants in the Kingdome of *Bohemia* rebelled, and upon the 20.

of

of *March* 1619 the aforesaid *Mathias* departed this life. After that *Moravia*, *Slesia*, *Lusatia*, and part of *Austria*, rebelled likewise through the sway of some powerfull Protestant commanders and Princes, who shrunk out of the coller of obedience, and refused to performe homage in vigour of a cession made by *Albertus* the Arch-Duke, brother to the aforesaid *Mathias*, (*Maximilian* being lately dead) so that the rebellion dilated it selfe in the Kingdome of *Hungary*. Now came on the prefixed time for the *Electorall diet* to be held at *Francfort*, where some of the Electors were present for the election of a new Emperor, and *Ferdinand* himselfe as King of *Bohemia* and *Hungarie*, one of the seven Electors stept in although the aforesaid *Bohemiã* yet persisting in their rebellion, sought what possible they could to prevent him. He was nevertheless

lesse by three Electors chosen Emperour with an universall applause the 28 day of *August*, being the festivall day of Saint *Austin*.

Ferdinand the second of that name, was borne the 9 of *July*, 1578. He was alwayes a stout defender and observer of the *Roman Church*: and upon the 8 of *November* with a powerfull Army and great slaughter of the adverse party, recovered the City of *Prague*, which is the Metropolitan City of the Kingdome of *Bohemia*, whereupon great hopes are conceived of his prosperity of government.

FINIS.